

Kuwait denies undercutting oil prices

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait denied Sunday that it had undercut official OPEC prices as oil industry experts said Gulf Oil Corporation of the United States was selling some of the country's crude at almost \$4 a barrel discount. Kuwait's chief government spokesman, Abdul Aziz Hussein, told reporters after a cabinet meeting: "I have no information about any price cuts. We still abide by official OPEC prices." The industry experts said Gulf Oil Corporation had sold some Kuwaiti crude at prices prevailing on the spot or non-contract market of around \$28.50 a barrel compared with the official \$32.30 set by OPEC. They had no details of how much had been sold.

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Ghali, Numeiri discuss Mideast

KHARTOUM (R) — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali Sunday held talks with Sudan's President Jaafar Numeiri on Middle East developments and other issues of bilateral interest, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported. It said the Egyptian minister, who arrived in the Sudanese capital Sunday morning, also handed President Numeiri a message from President Hosni Mubarak on the outcome of his recent talks in the United States, Canada, Britain and France.

Kreisky says PLO-Israel prisoner swap difficult

NEW YORK (R) — Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky said Sunday he feared a possible exchange of Palestinian and Israeli prisoners might be more difficult now that negotiations were no longer secret. Negotiations had been handled in secret for two months, until a military leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said in Damascus on Friday that the PLO had offered to hand over eight Israeli soldiers captured last summer in exchange for more than 5,000 Palestinians held by the Israelis. Mr. Kreisky told reporters that an agreement had been reached in principle for the exchange, but there was no agreement on a date or place or even the numbers to be involved. He said he had agreed to act as go-between "for humanitarian reasons."

E. German aid to Egypt under study

CAIRO (R) — Possible East German assistance for Egypt's five-year development plan was discussed Sunday in a meeting between Egyptian Minister of Industry Fuad Abu Zaghlal and East Germany's Minister of Foreign Trade Horst Soelle. The official Middle East News Agency (MENA) quoted Mr. Abu Zaghlal as saying Egypt was seeking the cooperation of the East European state in some projects through the transfer of German technology to Egypt. The agency did not elaborate. Egypt recently announced a \$41-billion five year plan and has since been seeking assistance for its implementation from various industrialised countries and international money organisations. The East German minister arrived here on Friday for four days of talks with Egyptian officials following his trips to South and North Yemen.

Mustafa Dudin leaves for U.S.

TEL AVIV (R) — Mustafa Dudin, head of Israeli-sponsored village leagues in the occupied West Bank, left Sunday for the United States on a visit that has been postponed several times because U.S. officials have refused to meet him. Mr. Dudin told reporters he hoped to talk with U.S. senators and congressmen about mobilising aid for village development projects. Israeli authorities in the West Bank have encouraged the leagues in an attempt to offset the influence of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in the occupied territory, but they are rejected by the majority of West Bank Arabs.

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PLO official says peacekeepers inadequate 'Palestinians, Lebanese may adopt security measures'

BEIRUT (R) — An official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Sunday Palestinians and Lebanese might have to adopt their own security measures after a bomb blast Saturday at a PLO office in which 20 people died.

Shafiq Al Hout, Beirut representative of the PLO, said it was the right of civilians to protect themselves if the multinational force now stationed in Beirut failed to do the job.

Whiffs of smoke still rose from the burnt-out offices of the PLO-affiliated Palestine Research Centre in Central Beirut Sunday, some 24 hours after the massive car bomb went off. More than 100 people were reported wounded in the explosion.

Mr. Hout was speaking on the steps of a church where he was attending the funeral of one of the dead — the wife of the centre's director.

Referring to the multinational force of United States, French and Italian troops, he said: "If these three countries fail in their task, then I think it is the right of the Palestinians and Lebanese in this part of the city to take measures to make sure that their civilians can live in peace and security."

Mr. Hout blamed the blast on "enemies of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples." He said Israel had an interest in terrorising the people of west Beirut, but added he could not be sure who planned the bomb.

He said nine of the dead and 15 of the injured were staff of the centre. The rest were passers-by, or local residents.

Factional flare-up

Meanwhile, fierce battles raged between rival Christian and Druze Muslim militias in the Israeli-held mountains east of Beirut and a Druze spokesman said the Christian fighters had been driven out of the strategic town of Aley.

Radio stations close to both sides in the conflict spoke of casualties in the shelling and street fighting but no figures were immediately available.

A spokesman for the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) said PSP fighters had forced

the Christian rightists out of their foothold on the western side of Aley.

The once-popular mountain resort 15 kilometres east of Beirut has been ravaged by sectarian fighting in recent months.

The main right-wing Christian militia known as the Lebanese Forces would not confirm the PSP claim but admitted suffering some setbacks. A spokesman said the fighting was the heaviest for several weeks.

Radio Free Lebanon, voice of the Christian rightist militia, accused Israeli forces of siding with the "socialists and communists" who it said were setting fire to Christian houses in Aley.

The charge came as a surprise since the Israelis have usually been accused by the Druzes of helping the Christians, with whom they have a long history of cooperation.

Radio stations also reported shelling between the Christian stronghold of Souq Al Gharb just west of Aley and the Druze town of Aitah, as well as between rival villages on the outskirts of Beirut.

The two sides have been battling for superiority since Israel's June invasion upset the local power balance and allowed the Christian militias to return. But little movement has been reported on the ground.

Dutch foreign minister to visit Jordan

AMMAN (Agencies) — Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van Den Broek is expected to visit Jordan as part of a five-nation Middle East tour scheduled to begin this week, Reuters reported from Amsterdam Sunday.

The news agency said that Mr. Van Den Broek may hold informal discussions with officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) during the 10-day trip.

Mr. Van Den Broek arrives in Oman Tuesday and is also expected to visit Lebanon, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

Reuters quoted political sources as saying that the Dutch government hoped the trip would reassure Arab governments that the Netherlands was not one-sidedly pro-Israeli in its desire to contribute to the Middle East peace process.

The minister told parliament last week that while he would not seek a meeting with the PLO which the Netherlands does not recognise, he would not let his way to avoid one.

Political sources said Mr. Van Den Broek would avoid any initiatives which could jeopardise a peace proposal put forward last

September by President Reagan, calling for Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan.

Successful Dutch governments have said they saw only a limited role for European countries in the peace process.

The Dutch have welcomed the Reagan initiative but would like to see greater emphasis given to the question of Palestinian self-determination.

Foreign Ministry officials last week briefed the head of the recently-established PLO information office in the Hague.

Shamir in Bonn to pursue better ties

BONN (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir arrived in Bonn Sunday for two days of talks likely to centre on Middle East peace moves and developing the recent improvement in Israeli-West German relations.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who greeted Mr. Shamir on his arrival in Bonn, said in a statement that the Middle East had entered a decisive stage and that chances for peace should be seized.

He said his talks with Mr. Shamir Monday would centre on the negotiations on troop withdrawals from Lebanon and on peace proposals for the region.

West German diplomats have said Mr. Genscher would urge Mr. Shamir to respond positively to President Reagan's peace plan, which would allow Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan.

Mr. Genscher said that if steps were not taken to solve the problem "the alternative would be a consolidation of the status quo, allied with a dangerous hardening of positions."

The Israeli foreign minister is scheduled to meet Chancellor Helmut Kohl Monday, the first Israeli leader to meet Mr. Kohl since he became chancellor last October, ending a period of frosty relations between the two countries.

Attacks by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin on former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, accusing him of a Nazi past, were one of the main factors in the cooling of relations.

But Mr. Kohl has already said he will visit Israel this year, something Mr. Schmidt never did, and his government's public tone towards Israel has been markedly more friendly despite West Ger-

many's support for Palestinian self-determination.

Mr. Shamir, who goes on to Luxembourg on Wednesday and later to Brussels for talks with European community leaders, said he would try to explain the reasons for Israel's military invasion of Lebanon last year.

The community sharply condemned the move, suspending indefinitely the signing of its financial protocol with Israel and cancelling its twice-yearly meeting on their 1975 cooperation accord.

While in Bonn Mr. Shamir is due to meet President Karl Carstens, Bavarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss and leading opposition Social Democratic politician Egon Bahr.

Paris to urge U.S. to change economic policy

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand, a firm supporter of the NATO decision to base new missiles in Europe, is expected to tell American Vice-President George Bush this week that a shift in U.S. economic attitudes would help strengthen the Western alliance, diplomats said Sunday.

Mr. Bush arrives in Paris on Tuesday as part of a seven-nation tour aimed at stiffening European support for the plan to start installing Pershing-2 and cruise missiles this year if Soviet-American talks on medium-range missiles fail.

Mr. Mitterrand has aligned himself closely with President Reagan over the missiles but his administration remains sharply critical of U.S. economic policies.

But compared with his visits to Britain and West Germany, where powerful sections of opinion oppose missile deployment, Mr. Bush's 24-hour Paris stay is unlikely to be a major challenge.

Cairo hopes peace talks will start early March

BEIRUT (R) — Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Ashraf Ghorbal was quoted Sunday as saying he hoped a Middle East peace process with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian negotiating team would be launched in early March.

Asked by the Beirut English-language weekly newspaper Monday Morning if he saw such a possibility, he replied: "That I see very well, and I hope it will take place early March."

He said he hoped the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, would take decisions at a session starting in Algiers on Feb. 14 which would allow the Palestinians and Jordanians to join negotiations to implement President Reagan's initiative announced last September.

Mr. Reagan's plan calls for Palestinian home rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan.

Asked if Israel, which has rejected the Reagan plan, might refuse to join such talks, Mr. Ghorbal said: "I think the pressure on Israel, even from the Jewish community, will be so immense that they will not be able to hold back."

Israel opts to cool down row with Washington

TEL AVIV (R) — In an abrupt reversal of policy, Israel Sunday indicated it wanted to play down its row with Washington over last Wednesday's confrontation between a U.S. Marine officer and Israeli tanks near Beirut.

The cabinet discussed the affair at its weekly meeting and on Prime Minister Menachem Begin's recommendation decided not to issue a statement, informed sources said.

Concerned that the incident was getting out of hand, some ministers accused the Israeli press of bad taste for publishing allegations of drug taking by U.S. Marines, the sources said.

Israeli military sources alleged that the American Marine officer who stopped an Israeli tank patrol in Beirut at pistol point smelt of alcohol.

The sources told foreign cor-

respondents that the commander of the tank unit, Lt.-Col. Rafi Landsberg, had reported this to his superiors.

The allegation was first made in the newspaper Haaretz.

The Marine officer has been commended by American leaders for the way he halted the three Israeli tanks as they approached a U.S.-controlled sector near the Lebanese capital.

Israeli colonel injured

Mr. Landsberg was wounded Sunday in an explosion, an Israeli military spokesman said.

Two explosive devices blew up as an Israeli patrol led by Col. Landsberg was passing through the town of Shou'eifat, southeast of Beirut, he said.

The spokesman described the colonel's wounds as very slight.

Moscow rebuffs Israeli call for talks

BEIRUT (R) — A senior Soviet official, in an interview published Sunday, dismissed a call by Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon for direct talks between Israel and the Kremlin but said Moscow would welcome normal ties if the Israelis gave up their policy of expansion.

Karen Broutens, deputy head of the International department of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, was commenting on the call made by Mr. Sharon in an Israeli newspaper interview on Jan. 28.

The Soviet Union severed relations with Israel after the 1967 Middle East war.

Mr. Broutens told the Beirut English-language weekly Monday Morning: "This is not the first time that Gen. Sharon tries, in his own peculiar way, to play the so-called 'Soviet card'."

"I don't think he can seriously raise this matter in the present situation, with Israel pushing ahead with its aggressive policy."

The Soviet official said Moscow had frequently stated it would welcome normal relations with Israel once it abandoned "its policy of aggression and expansion towards its neighbours."

He added: "Our condition for normal relations with Israel is that it withdraw all its forces from the occupied Arab territories, including Lebanon."

Mr. Broutens, who was interviewed last week during a visit to Lebanon by a Soviet delegation, said everything pointed to the conclusion that Israel was "preparing to deliver a blow to Syria."

"The current Israeli preparations against Syria cannot but cause us concern," he added. Syria

has expressed similar fears following its acquisition of new Soviet missiles, identified by Israel and the U.S. as SAM-5 long-range anti-aircraft rockets.

Asked what the Kremlin would do if Israel attacked Syria, Mr. Broutens said: "We support Syria in the military field and in a most serious manner. What this entails will become clear later."

He said the recent visit to Moscow by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal as part of an Arab League delegation had not changed Saudi-Soviet relations but could bode well for future ties.

He said the two countries already had diplomatic ties "but we're talking about the possibility of turning those relations into normal relations, the Soviet Union is ready to take that step."

Aid figures high in U.S.-Greek ties

ATHENS (R) — Greece's ruling Socialists, elected 15 months ago in a storm of anti-Western rhetoric, are now getting down to some hard bargaining with the United States over its four military bases here.

For the first time since the start last October of U.S.-Greek talks on the bases' future, both sides are publicly putting their cards on the table—with U.S. military aid to Greece and Turkey emerging as a central issue.

On Friday, the Reagan administration outraged Greek public opinion by proposing, for 1984, a sharp increase in military help to Turkey, which Greece views as its only potential aggressor, while keeping aid to Greece at 1983 levels.

U.S. officials said the increase proposed for Turkey, from \$765

million to \$930 million, was intended to cover "long unmet modernisation needs."

In what was immediately branded as blackmail by many Greek newspapers, an American official said any reconsideration of the \$280 million aid proposal for Greece would depend on the outcome of the bases talks.

He added: "At the moment we see no reason to raise it."

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, voted into power as Greece's first Socialist leader on such slogans as "out with the bases of death" immediately wrote to President Reagan, predicting "unforeseeable consequences" if the military balance in the Aegean was upset.

Warning that the Reagan proposals did not help the climate of

the U.S.-Greek talks, he called on Washington to review the aid levels it had proposed for Athens.

Earlier this week, Mr. Papandreu told his Pasok (socialist) Party since the bases served neither Greek nor NATO interests: "There must be things in return, serious things, for them to remain for any length of time."

Mr. Papandreu has ruled out what he calls unilateral action in removing the bases but remains committed to securing a timetable for their eventual withdrawal.

The bases consist of an air support base adjacent to Athens airport, a communications centre near Athens, an electronic surveillance station on the island of Crete, and an anchorage on Crete big enough for the whole U.S. Sixth Fleet.

Yemen launches fund-raising

SANAA (R) — North Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh flew to neighbouring Saudi Arabia Sunday at the start of a fund-raising campaign to rebuild vast areas of his country which were devastated by an earthquake last December. He said on departure North Yemen needed aid from friendly countries for reconstruction. The quake, which killed 3,000 people, caused damage officially estimated at \$3 billion. President Saleh was met at Jeddah airport by King Fahd. It was not known whether the Yemeni leader planned visits to other countries. Saudi Arabia, North Yemen's major financial backer, donated \$30 million in cash as well as emergency relief aid for the quake victims.

Hussein receives Mubarak's message

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein received at the Royal Court Sunday Dr. Usama Al Baz, a senior adviser in Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The Egyptian delegate delivered a message to the King from the Egyptian president on his recent talks with senior American, Canadian, British and French officials.

The Egyptian message includes a comprehensive evaluation of the outcome of the talks, which centred on developments in the Middle East, and peace efforts for establishing a just and durable peace in the region.

The meeting between the King and the Egyptian official was attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Ahmed Al Lawzi and Court Minister Amer Khammash.



Lt.-Gen. Mohammad Ershad

Ershad arrives today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Bangladeshi military ruler Lt.-Gen. Mohammad Hussain Ershad is due here Monday for a brief visit in Jordan and talks with His Majesty King Hussein and senior Jordanian officials.

The talks will centre on means of bolstering bilateral relations, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra said.

Lt.-Gen. Ershad, who is also Bangladesh's prime minister, came to power after proclaiming martial law last March.

Press reports indicate that Gen. Ershad may be mediating a dispute between Britain and the Arab World over London's refusal to receive an Arab League peace mission which included a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Jordan, along with Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, the PLO and Syria, is a member of the seven-member mission which was formed last September at an Arab summit held in Fez, Morocco.

Jordan has ambassadorial-level diplomatic relations with Bangladesh and on Jan. 27 the new Bangladeshi ambassador, Mr. Mohammad Muhsen presented his credentials to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Mr. Muhsen is non-resident ambassador to Jordan and Oman beside his post as the resident ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Bangladesh imports large quantities of phosphates from Jordan.

'Turkey poses no threat to Greece'

ANKARA (R) — Greek fears that Turkey poses a threat are "totally baseless," Turkish Foreign Minister Turgut Ersoy said Sunday. "It is well known that Turkey has no hostile intentions against Greece and pursues a cautious policy seeking consensus," he said. "Turkey is ready to settle problems between the two countries through negotiations."

The two NATO allies are deeply divided over issues like air and continental shelf rights in the Aegean Sea and Cyprus. Planned meetings at foreign minister level to seek a solution to the disputes were called off last December and Turkish officials say no new talks are imminent.

HOME NEWS

Joint earthquake action programme is prepared

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Civil Defence Department (CDD) and the University of Jordan are to cooperate in measures aimed at reducing the effects of earthquakes in Jordan.

Agreement on the subject was reached in talks held at the university Sunday between CDD Director-General Khaled Tarawneh and University of Jordan's professors of geology.

Maj. Gen. Tarawneh was briefed by Dr. Shaker Muqbel and Dr. Zubair Al Issa on the causes of earthquakes and tremors, their dangers and ways of reducing the resultant damage. Maj. Gen. Tarawneh said that the CDD will offer every possible help to the university in the course of preparing a joint working paper both

to ensure the protection of civilians and cities, for the construction of quake-resistant buildings.

Both Drs. Muqbel and Issa are to be in charge of preparing the joint venture, according to a university spokesman.

During his visit, Maj. Gen. Tarawneh inspected the university's seismological station and its adjoining laboratories.

According to the spokesman, the station has registered 19 tremors in the past two weeks, of which 18 were in the Red Sea and

one north of Zarqa. The tremor with the greatest intensity registered 4.8 on the Richter scale, the spokesman said.

The University of Jordan's seismological station, the only one in the Arab region, was established over one and a half years ago following the destruction of a similar station in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, a report in Al Rai newspaper Sunday said that the government is considering purchasing land in Amman threatened by landslides. The paper quoted informed sources as saying that these lands are in the Ras Al Ain, Jabal Jofeh, Al Musdar and Jabal Nazif districts. Orders to halt building operations in these areas are to be issued soon, the report said.

Parliamentary delegation leaves for Rabat talks

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation will leave for Rabat Monday to take part in the Arab Parliamentary Union's 13th meeting which is due to open Tuesday.

A spokesman for the Upper House of Parliament said that subjects for discussion include current Arab affairs, the union's position in light of the Fez Summit of last September, the Euro-Arab dialogue and subjects to be discussed at the Inter-Parliamentary Union's conference due to be held in Helsinki.

The delegation to the conference is to be led by Senator Hassan Al Kayed, the spokesman said.

NCC speaker invited to attend PNC

AMMAN (J.T.) — National Consultative Council (NCC) Speaker Suleiman Arar, along with several NCC members, has been invited to attend the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting which is due to be held in Algiers on Feb. 14, according to a report by Al Rai newspaper.

New financing for local projects issued by Development Bank

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) announced Sunday its approval of loans totalling JD 1.15 million to finance several local industrial projects.

Three of these loans, together amounting to JD 315,000, will be used to buy raw materials needed for a shoe factory, a printing press and leather factory which have already been built. Three others,



Youth club members from Irbid, Ramtha, Turrah and Mafrag Sunday visited a front line division (Petra photo)

Youth clubs visit army division and academy

ZARQA (Petra) — A large delegation from the youth clubs in Ajloun, Anjarah, Jerash and Souf visited the Royal Military Academy (RMA) and the Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Infantry School Sunday. The tour is part of a programme planned by the Moral Guidance Department at the Jordanian Armed Forces General Command in cooperation with the Youth Welfare Organisation to familiarise young people with the activities of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

The party listened to a talk by the RMA commander on the establishment and duties of the academy, and the kind of programmes, education and training the prospective officers receive. The delegation was also briefed on the history and duties of the

Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, and its role in recruiting officers and other ranks for the Jordanian and other Arab armed forces.

Meanwhile, a delegation from youth centres in Irbid, Ramtha, Al Turrah and Mafrag Sunday visited the front line positions of the 12th Royal Mechanised Division.

They were briefed by the commander of a division in the formation, duties and tasks of the units. The visitors also toured several army positions and watched military exercises in the fields.

The visit was organised by the Youth Welfare Organisation (YWO) in cooperation with the army's Moral Guidance Department with the aim of teaching Jordanian youth about the role and responsibilities of the Jordanian armed forces.

Giscard holds reception for French citizens

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former French President and Madame Valery Giscard d'Estaing, who are on a private visit to Jordan, invited French citizens to a reception at the Royal Palace Sunday.

The reception was attended by about 100 French citizens who met and talked with their former president.

Income tax receipts up

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Income Tax Department's revenues in the past month amounted to JD 6.5 million, almost double the figure for January 1982, according to the department's Director-General Abdullah Nsour.

In an interview with the local press, Dr. Nsour hoped that his department would be able to collect JD 53 million by the end of 1983, as was envisaged in the government budget for this year.

Minister to attend UNCTAD

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Jordan is to take part in a meeting of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) which is due to open in Baghdad Monday.

The conference, which is to be attended by delegates from all Asian nations, will discuss the international economic situation, the world economic crisis and the role of UNCTAD in promoting trade and development in under developed nations, according to a spokesman for the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

He said that at the five-day preparatory meetings, Jordan will be represented by two senior officials from the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Later, Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour will take part in the conference's four-days of meetings which will be held at ministerial level.

Greece is committed to developing trade and economic cooperation with Jordan

By Lamis Andoni
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The meetings which were held last week by the Greco-Jordanian joint committee were a continuation of the bilateral economic collaboration agreement signed in 1977, Mr. Saleh Al-Horani, the Industry and Trade Ministry Under-Secretary told the Jordan Times Sunday.

Under the 1977 agreement, a Greco-Jordanian committee was formed to study means of furthering and strengthening economic collaboration and technical and trade cooperation between the two countries, he added.

Mr. Horani, who headed the Jordanian contingent added that the committee was intended to hold annual meetings. "Unfortunately, and due to circumstances affecting the affairs of both countries, the committee was able to convene only once in Athens in 1981," he added.

Last week, however, a 13-member Greek delegation headed by the Greek Under-Secretary of the Ministry of the Economy Mr. D. Demosthenopoulos arrived in Amman for a three-day official visit. During this trip the Greco-Jordanian committee resumed their talks which had been held over from 1981.

Before leaving Amman last Wednesday, Mr. Demosthenopoulos gave an interview to the Jordan Times in which he reiterated his government's commitment to develop and consolidate economic cooperation with Jordan.

"Strengthening economic col-

laboration between Greece and Jordan reflects the growing friendship between the two countries," he said.

The Greek government's sincere desire to establish close economic ties with Jordan stems from its firm and principled support for the Arab cause, and particularly the Palestinian's plight, he affirmed.

Mr. Demosthenopoulos said the volume of trade between the two countries amounts to JD 7m, but there are plans to expand the commodity exchange between the two.

The talks held by the Greco-Jordanian committee last week concentrated mainly on the means of exploiting the ports in Greece and Aqaba for the benefit of both countries.

The committee also discussed the possibilities of exporting more phosphate to Greece, he added. Later last week, Mr. Horani told the Jordan Times that phosphates are the main commodity which Jordan exports to Greece, while Jordan imports cement, textile and food products among other things from Greece.

"We also suggested to the Greek delegation that the free zones in Aqaba and Zarqa could be of help to Greece merchants and industries in marketing their commodities in neighbouring Arab countries." The Jordanian side also explained the other advantages to be gained from using the free zones in Jordan, he added.

For his part, Mr. Demosthenopoulos emphasised that

Greece will play a positive role, in its capacity as a member in the European Economic Community (EEC), to promote the economic interests of Jordan and the Arab World as a whole.

I would like to stress that the Socialist countries of the Mediterranean, that is France, Spain and Greece, should cooperate together with the Arab countries to fight against unrestrained capitalism", the Greek Economy Ministry Under-Secretary said.

Mr. Demosthenopoulos belongs to the Greek Socialist Party which came to power in 1981. Prior winning the elections PASOK strongly opposed Greece joining the EEC in 1979. PASOK, however, has not sought to take Greece out of the EEC since coming to power.

When asked why not, Mr. Demosthenopoulos said that PASOK is still committed to maintain national autonomy and is against any alliance which might harm this independence.

He added that this position had been clearly stated by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu in his speech delivered to the EEC members.

"We came to power because the Greek people voted for us, and that expressed their confidence in the PASOK. The fact remains, however, that radical changes can not be achieved overnight," he said.

At the end of the interview, Mr. Demosthenopoulos expressed his deep respect for and sent his very best wishes to the Jordanian people.

Education to have top priority in UNRWA's 1983 services

By Affah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Education will be given top priority in this year's services of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA), according to the newly appointed director of UNRWA affairs in Jordan.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Per Olof Hallqvist said that UNRWA's service priorities will depend on the agency's advisory commission and the United Nations General Assembly resolutions. These, he said, put education first, health second, and relief services third.

Mr. Hallqvist, who replaced former Director John Tanner in late December after working in Saudi Arabia for two years, added that UNRWA aims to direct its services at those who are really in need for "it is true that this action has to be taken mainly for financial reasons."

He explained that UNRWA had not cut its relief services to the refugees, but had abandoned its general distribution of rations to each refugee in all its fields of operation, except Lebanon.

This decision, he said, had been taken due to the deficit in UNRWA's budget. "Last year's deficit was absorbed by the cut in rations and by keeping 100 posts vacant and by drawing \$20 million from UNRWA's cash reserves."

This year the agency is no better off. A budget of \$239 million for 1983 was submitted to the United Nations General Assembly in June 1982, but later it was reduced to \$206 million. The revised budget, Mr. Hallqvist said, reflected a deficit of \$33 million and, with an income of only \$160 million, will still leave UNRWA with a deficit of \$44 million.

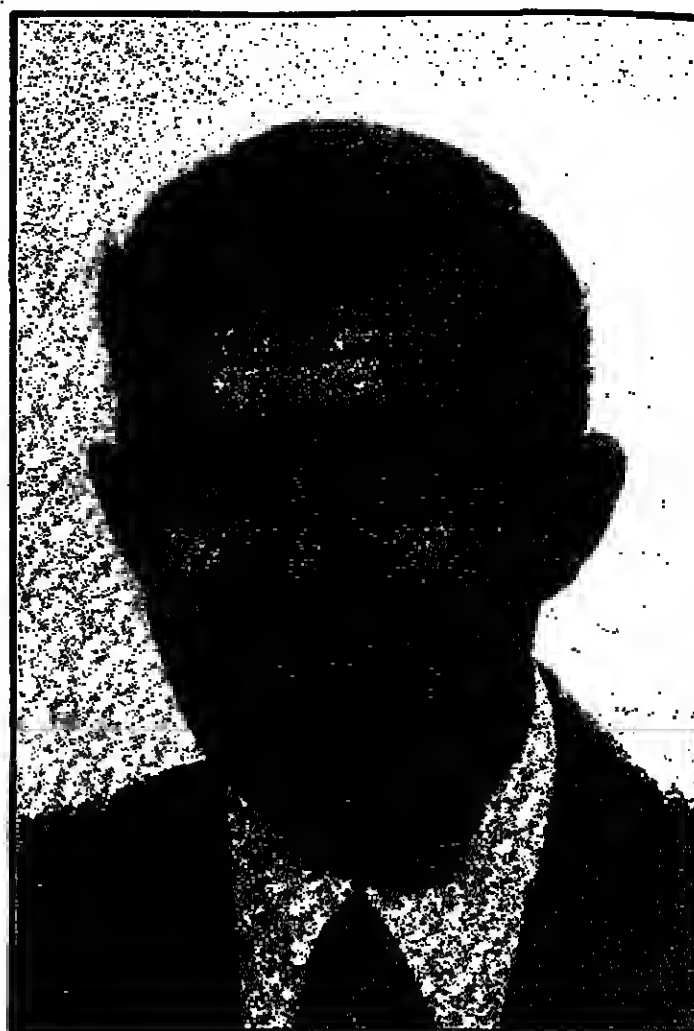
UNRWA's financial predicament is not a new situation nor is it a satisfactory one as "with this financial difficulty it means that the agency has again to survive with a small amount of income," he said. Consequently, there are no plans to expand UNRWA's schools and vocational training centres in Jordan, he added. "In a way, we have the worst problems regarding schools and classrooms. There is a natural growth in the number of students which amounts to about 3.8 per cent each year. To build more schools, recruit more teachers and to provide all related facilities "needs a lot of money, and with this year's deficit we cannot plan for such a thing."

Mr. Hallqvist pointed out that education takes the biggest portion of the agency's income. "It absorbs 65 per cent of our complete budget, five per cent of which are teachers' salaries. These have not been increased, but neither has the agency made any reductions in teachers' basic salaries. We are just operating at the limit of our resources," he said.

Referring to its sanitary services, the UNRWA director told the Jordan Times that the agency plans to improve them as much as they can for "this is certainly in our interest." This kind of service is part of the preventive activities that "we are trying to promote to go together with the educational child health services, mothercare and other health activities," he said. "It is given a high priority within the health programme and it would even be given priority in a deficit situation."

Turning his attention to the agency staff's living conditions, Mr. Hallqvist said that UNRWA wants to ensure that its staff is not underpaid. "The availability of funds, the rate of inflation and whether the employees are receiving other income supplements will be taken into account in judging if the staff is receiving a decent living wage and whether it should receive a special living allowance, he said.

Originally the staff requested a living allowance supplement to



Mr. Per Olof Hallqvist, the newly appointed UNRWA director in Jordan (Jordan Times photo)

their wages and asked for a comprehensive comparative survey which would show that workers in other industries were materially better off. "We have agreed to give these workers, from the manual, general services and headquarters areas of employment, a five per cent increase in salary effective from Feb. 1, 1983," said Mr. Hallqvist. However the UNRWA teachers, who have asked for a much larger rise and don't subscribe to the survey, will not receive this increase.

Regarding the issue of registration cards for those Palestinians who are registered refugees in UNRWA for this year, Mr. Hallqvist emphasised that the details of these cards needed clarification. He pointed out that there is confusion between the general identity cards for all Palestinians who are spread all over the world and registration cards for registered Palestinian refugees in UNRWA. "I think (UNRWA's) General Commissioner Olof Rydbeck was being rather conservative in spelling out that UNRWA is not involved in issuing identity cards to identify Palestinians as such, which is the secretary-general's and not the commissioner's general task," he said.

The identity card registration of Palestinians in UNRWA, Mr. Hallqvist stressed, is a programme completely outside the agency's jurisdiction. "Something that has been discussed in the General Assembly, and that the general secretariat of the United Nations was asked to study." In the meantime, he said, UNRWA will be issuing the registration cards, though its form and use has not been decided upon. "What kind of a card it will be whether it would be available to every member of the family, and whether it would be only for the head of the family have not been decided yet."

"This is not because it is a very complicated issue, it is because UNRWA wants to cover all aspects of the use of the card, and the uses will determine what form the card will take. "It will be a few months yet before the cards are distributed, but the present delays are purely technical ones such as printing.

The commissioner-general's idea, Mr. Hallqvist pointed out, is that the refugees themselves should ask for this card; that is it

not something to be enforced upon the refugees. "Issuing the registration cards will not constitute a financial problem for it will only cost several thousand dollars, but for the general identity cards, it will cost about \$10 million," Mr. Hallqvist said, again emphasising the difference in financial implications between the two cards.

With reference to the General Assembly resolution passed in 1982, Mr. Hallqvist said, it has now been decided that UNRWA's headquarters should be moved back to its former site by which is obviously meant Beirut. "The commissioner-general is very keen on moving the agency's headquarters from Vienna to one of agency's areas of operation. The only factor that hinders the moving of the headquarters immediately, is the security situation in Beirut, and it is clear that the commissioner-general does not want to find himself back in a situation similar to four years ago, when staff absenteeism reached 40 per cent a day," Mr. Hallqvist said. In order to judge when to move, Mr. Rydbeck is closely following Beirut day-to-day situation, he added.

Mr. Hallqvist pointed out that UNRWA has already leased new offices in Beirut and the field office has been moved in their order to start work. "The new offices are so big that it meant to take it headquarters."

In the interview, the new UNRWA director said he hopes that the fresh interest in the Palestinian issue, "which is being noticed throughout the world," would also mean that nations would be able to increase their contributions to UNRWA at least in line with the rate of inflation.

Mr. Hallqvist hopes for a just solution for the Palestinian people and the Palestinian cause. "It is the interests of most people in the world, and certainly to those who work in the agency to solve the problem, and if I have had not felt that then I probably would not have taken up this post."

"A just solution in my opinion coincides with United Nations Resolution 242, he concluded. Neither I, nor anyone else, can foresee what the ultimate solution might be, but I am confident that eventually a just solution can be reached," Mr. Hallqvist said.

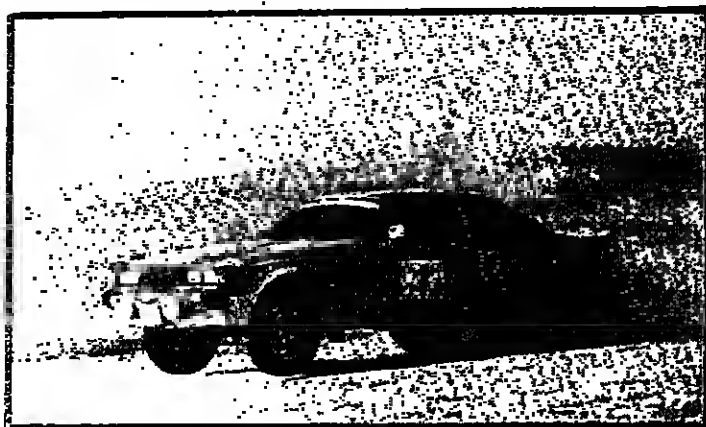
Government reported to be taking steps to prevent price rises in oil linked areas

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government is reported to be taking all necessary measures to maintain the current prices of various services and products closely dependent upon or made from oil, according to a report in the local press Sunday.

These affect among other things electricity, transport, communications and gas as well as plastics and other oil by-products. The report said that the government has issued instructions to its departments, especially the

Ministry of Supply, to impose strict pricing controls and to prosecute anyone violating these regulations.

The French citizens in Jordan, who attended the reception given by President and Madame Valery Giscard d'Estaing at the Royal Palace Sunday, wish to express their gratitude and deep appreciation to His Majesty King Hussein for giving them the opportunity to meet President and Madame Valery Giscard d'Estaing.



Michael Saleh and his co-driver Tony Sahia driving the Toyota number one which was the winner of 1981 and 1982 Jordan rallies (Photo Jordan Times)

RAC to enter two teams in Kuwaiti car rally event

By Ara Voskian
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Two cars representing the Royal Automobile Club will participate in the Kuwaiti International rally, which will be held on Feb. 10, club officials said Saturday.

The participants, Mr. Ziad Bustani with his co-driver Mr. Sami Zein and Mr. Hailey Aguililar with his wife and co-driver Teresita Aguililar, have already left for Kuwait, the officials said.

The Kuwaiti International rally is one of the qualifying events for the Gulf Rally Challenge which is the main Gulf championship. Commenting on the chances of either of the two drivers winning the general manager of the Royal Automobile Club, Mr. Derek H. Ledger said: "I don't think that we stand a strong chance of winning... if they finish within the first ten places we will be very happy."

"This is the first foreign rally in which the Jordanians are participating and we hope in the future, as our drivers get more experience, to take part in more events," Mr. Ledger added.

The club manager hopes that Jordan will take part in the Cyprus Rally in September, which is one of the qualifying events of the European Championship. Mr. Bustani, who drives a Datsun Silvia especially prepared for rallies, has been driving in rallies for a number of years. He came third in the first Jordan International Rally in 1981. Last year he failed to participate because the car, which he was promised by the factory in Japan did not turn up in time.

Mr. Aguililar, who drives a Datsun 210, is the General Manager of the Amman Marriott Hotel, and has been a member of the Royal Automobile Club for more than a year and a half now. He has been taking part in international rallies for 28 years and has won 15 times, ending as runner up on many occasions.

The Royal Automobile Club was founded by His Majesty King Hussein in 1953, the year he ascended to the throne, and the club has almost 5,000 members.



Mr. Hailey Aguililar and his wife and co-driver Teresita Aguililar participated in the 1982 Jordan Rally with their Audi number six. (Photo Jordan Times)

FEATURES

Reagan's 'colossal ego' goes up for sale

By Ronald Clarke
Reuter

SACRAMENTO, California — President Reagan, then governor of California, and his wife Nancy, broke ground for the state's new governor's mansion eight years ago, but today its only occupants are the caretakers and their pet dog.

At the ceremony, the Reagans dug into the earth with gold-painted shovels: "We did it, honey," Mrs. Reagan declared happily as she hugged her husband's arm.

The new mansion, an idea strongly supported by Mrs. Reagan, was built on the outskirts of Sacramento.

Today the mansion — known as "the house that Nancy built" — is shrouded in political controversy. The present governor, George Deukmejian, is living in a two-bedroom apartment after having just moved out of a 32-dollar-a-day hotel room.

The sole occupants of the \$1.3 million mansion, with its eight bedrooms, are an elderly couple

who act as caretakers and their dog.

The mansion has been described by critics as the "Taj Mahal" and as a monument to Mr. Reagan's "colossal ego".

The Democrat-controlled state legislature cannot decide whether to sell the mansion, allow Mr. Deukmejian, a Republican like Mr. Reagan, to move in or to restore the former mansion.

The affair started in 1966 when Mr. Reagan was elected governor and moved with his family into an elegant Victorian-style home in the centre of Sacramento.

The wooden house, with its rounded bay windows, had been the residence of California's governors since it was bought by the state in 1903 for \$32,500.

Within three months, the Reagans had moved out. Mrs. Reagan said the house was a dusty old fire trap, unsafe for her eight-year-old son, Ron, to play in.

The Reagan exchanged the house with its six Italian marble fireplaces — ruled by a fire marshal to be unsafe to use — for a Tudor-style mansion on 45th

Street, a tree-lined road of millionaires' homes known as the "fabulous forties".

The new home had 15 rooms and something that had been missing from the old place — a swimming pool.

The house was leased to the Reagans by a group of friends and supporters who had bought it.

At first, Mr. Reagan paid the rent of \$15,000 a year, but later the state took over the payments.

The Reagans began campaigning for a new mansion. Supporters formed a committee to raise \$550,000 to build it. A site was chosen, with Mrs. Reagan's blessing, on a river bank at Carmichael, 24 kilometres from the state capital.

A controversy started when the committee sent letters to 495 Sacramento lobbyists, who protect and work for the interests of industries and other groups, asking them to each contribute \$1,000 to the fund.

Another issue arose when American Indians said the building would be built on an old Maud Indian village and burial ground.

"If there is such a village, it is 3,000 years old and I doubt if anyone can trace its ancestry back to then," Mr. Reagan told reporters.

Archaeologists said after an excavation there was no clear evidence there had been an Indian village on the site.

By the time the mansion, with its eight bedrooms, eight bathrooms, two dining rooms, two kitchens and two studies, had been completed, Mr. Reagan was out of office.

His successor, Jerry Brown, refused to live in the mansion. He called it the "Taj Mahal".

Mr. Brown, a bachelor who drove a medium-sized car instead of the governor's Cadillac and flew economy instead of first class, moved into a two-bedroom flat near his office.

The mansion was left unwanted, in the hands of caretakers.

State Senator Robert Alquist, a Democrat like Mr. Brown, launched a campaign to sell the mansion. Referring to Mr. Reagan, he declared: "The mansion is a monument to the colossal ego of our former governor."

The state legislature voted to sell the mansion, but the highest bid received was \$25,000 below the asking price of \$1.5 million, set by the state.

Mr. Deukmejian says he wants to live in the mansion with his family. State officials say the mansion needs another million dollars spent on carpets, curtains and other items.

Mr. Deukmejian has said he could raise the million dollars in private contributions, but political observers have said this might not be the right time politically to do so.

With the state facing a budget deficit of at least \$1.5 billion and with 1.3 million people in the state out of work, Mr. Deukmejian should not be seen to be lavishing so much money on a home, the observers believe.

The mansion goes up for sale again next month.

Senator Alquist is proposing that the money from the sale of the mansion should be used to move the old governor's mansion to a new site, where it could be restored as the governor's home.

Can Mexico moralise police force

By Robert Block
Reuter

MEXICO — President Miguel De La Madrid has promised to "modernise and moralise" the Mexican police, who many people say commit more crimes than they prevent.

Arturo Jara Perez, an investigative police officer supplementing his meagre salary by driving a taxi, shook his head and smiled at the passenger.

"Sure the Mexican police are corrupt," he said. "Many of them are rats, but there is nothing anyone can do to stop it."

President De La Madrid disagrees on the last point. In January he abolished the Investigative Division for the Prevention of Delinquency (DIPD). Made up of plainclothes officers, the DIPD has a reputation for ruthlessness and brutality.

The president disbanded the DIPD for abusing its authority and said the government must take sure the police guarantee public safety and order rather than cause their breakdown.

The most common crime the

police commit is the on-the-spot traffic fine known as the "mordida" or "the bite", which ends up in the officer's pocket instead of in the city coffers.

Beatrice Suarez, a director of the Mexico City rape centre, told Reuters policemen almost never appear in the dock. She added that of the estimated 10,000 rapes in Mexico City, close to half are committed by police.

One reason Mexican police turn to crime is because of their meagre 14,000 peso (\$95) a month salary.

"The salary, coupled with the fact that a few will get prosecuted for what they do, makes crime an easy way to get extra money," one Mexico City lawyer said.

Mexico City police chief Ramon Mora Sanchez said another reason police turn to crime is "the chain", a system in which each police officer has to pay a weekly or a daily fee to his boss and his boss in turn has to pay to his boss and so on up the chain.

One policeman said it cost 1,000 pesos (\$7) for the privilege of driving a patrol car for an eight-hour shift. 1,500 pesos

(\$10) a day for a tow truck and 300 pesos (£2) a day for a normal street corner.

President De La Madrid proposed to increase police pay to stop crime and corruption, but public funds are tight as the nation struggles under an \$83 billion debt.

A police spokesman said that he did not know what kind of increase police would get under the austerity measures taken to deal with Mexico's worst economic crisis for years.

Still, many Mexicans were heartened by the president's public pledge to wipe out police corruption and crime.

The day after the presidential decree, press reports in local papers said 1,700 officers of the disbanded DIPD were being transferred to the investigative division of the justice department. Another said some 800 will go back on the beat.

Another editorial said the dark image of the police even affected children: When playing cops and robbers, they never know who are the bad guys and who the good.

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Hitting back with statements

WHEN it comes to devotion and truthfulness for the Palestinian cause, it is wrong to divide patriotic Palestinians between ideologues and pragmatists, radicals and moderates. In the current search for peace in the Middle East, it is true that different groups to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have different opinions, even positions, on the best way to proceed towards achieving their goals, but as far as can be told the Palestinians remain united on the necessity to recover the land as their top priority.

Most Palestinians, we believe, realise today's facts. The rest either want to ignore or wish to challenge them. A clear example of the second category is those PLO groups which were participating in a Libyan-sponsored congress of the so-called "Arab opposition" during the past few days.

"No truce, no negotiations, no recognition of the Zionist enemy. The conflict between the Arab World and the Zionist enemy is a matter of existence, not of borders. There is no possibility of any settlement or co-existence between them," declared the Tripoli congress in a communique issued on Saturday. As if big

brother Muammar Qadhafi had just returned from a successful trip to Palestine on a Libyan passport.

Ideology is fine, but not demagoguery and adventurism. Qadhafi can be his own man, but the Palestinians with him cannot be that serious. Do they all know what is happening on the ground? Or would they rather challenge it?

Israel everyday introduces new Jewish facts of life in Palestine and the rejectionists hit back in words and statements. The Zionist enemy says it will not trade territory for peace, and actually insists on keeping the land as the price for leaving the Arabs in peace, and the Tripoli meetings counter with verbal threats and empty promises of recovering the land and regaining the rights in a matter of days rather than months.

It is not because we disbelieve in going to the ends of the earth for Palestinian rights that we attack the Libyan-sponsored congress. It is our strong belief, however, that peace deserves one more chance before moderation and logic could become things of the past.

DE FACTONO MICS

Commendable start for Jordanian mobilisation

By T.A. Jaber

The National Mobilisation Committee of the National Consultative Council (NCC) is sponsoring five symposia on various dimensions of Jordanian mobilisation. The first symposium was held last Thursday. Three prominent speakers — the Minister of Labour, Dr. Jawad Anani, Mr. Amin Shokair, businessman and a member of the NCC, and Dr. Ibrahim Badran, director of the Department of Energy at the Ministry of Industry and Trade — took part in the symposium.

The symposium was opened by an introductory statement made the chairman of the committee, Mrs. Laila Sharaf, and light-heartedly and ably chaired by Dr. Abdullah Nsour, director of the Income Tax Department.

It is not my purpose here to present a briefing to the reader on who said what and what was the response of the relatively large number of attendants. Rather, I would like to expose

my general observations based of course on the statements made in the symposium and the discussion that followed.

My first observation is that Jordanians are not apathetic as may be the case for many nations in both developed and developing countries. They particularly the educated amongst them — are eager to participate and discuss sincerely and openly the challenges which the country is facing or expects to face.

The motive to participate is a legitimate and healthy one. It should be nourished and guided towards national objectives. We need continued and additional platforms for wider participation and involvement.

At one time, during the symposium a proposition was made to establish a cultural club for government employees who account for 45 per cent of the total labour force.

Such a club would serve, if properly directed, as an excellent platform for testing public

opinion, disseminating information and promoting unified positions towards national issues.

The National Mobilisation Committee offers a commendable channel through which wider participation can be generated. However, it would have been much more relevant and effective if the first symposium dealt with the concept of national mobilisation, its requirements, its overall objectives and its framework.

Failure to clear out these crucial guidelines led to different terms of reference not only for the speakers but also the audience. There is a risk that this may be repeated in the coming symposia which would lead to useful but fragmented and unsettled discussions.

Now that the economic dimensions were raised first, the National Mobilisation Committee is called upon to formulate, in cooperation with others, and on the basis of the

five symposia, the needed framework and specifics of national mobilisation in Jordan. A working paper on this matter should be prepared, discussed publicly and hopefully adopted. In this manner, our efforts, now and in the future, will not wither away.

Many of the issues raised last Thursday represent major questions in the Jordanian economy that are not yet fully settled. The speakers presented their own implicit preferences about these questions without attempting to give final answers. Accordingly, these issues have to be debated further and resolved. There are some examples of major issues:

— If Jordan has adopted a mixed economic system, how would this system evolve given the fact that mixed economies cover a range of alternatives, rather than a particular option? — How could we improve the linkages between the defence requirements on the one hand

and internal industrial and other activities on the other? — The population question in terms of its size, geographical and age distribution and the resulting low percentage of the population as part of the labour force.

— Where should Jordan concentrate its development efforts? This question led to a debate on commodity sectors vis-a-vis services. — The need for a reconsideration of the government policies towards imports, luxury consumption, income distribution and planning techniques.

The meeting was more successful in raising these and other issues than settling them. It created diverse reactions particularly since the speakers did not follow a uniform style in their appraisal. As concerns other similar activities, one tends to conclude that more of such discussions are needed and should be organised.

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. credibility rests on Habib's return

U.S. special envoy Philip Habib returns to the Middle East Monday. His visit to Israel will be where he resumes his mission, made more difficult by the Israeli intransigent stand, and the impossible conditions they have made for a withdrawal from Lebanon.

It is still too early to judge the forthcoming visit of President Reagan's special envoy, and to decide whether he will be able to pressure Israel into changing its hardline stand. Nonetheless, it is obvious that the U.S. administration has not proved that it is capable of taming the Israeli extremists regarding a withdrawal from Lebanon. It is also obvious that evidence of such a capability is badly needed. This will demonstrate the U.S. administration's ability to make a practical success of President Reagan's initiative in the Middle East.

The present visit by Philip Habib is especially important as whether the U.S. is to prove capable of implementing its peace proposals rests on its outcome.

The stories recently circulated by some American sources that there is no need to link American efforts for implementing the Reagan initiative with an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon are quite depressing. The Arabs should be wary of this as it signals a possible U.S. reluctance to show any willingness to bring about an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. To the Arabs such a withdrawal, primarily a U.S. responsibility, is a criterion of U.S. credibility in the region. Thus Habib's visit will reflect future American intentions throughout the Middle East.

Al Dustour: Village League visit casts more doubt on U.S. aims

The invitation received by some Village Leagues' representatives, whether coming from U.S. senators or the executive branch proves only one thing. The U.S. government is willing to welcome such lackeys otherwise an entrance visa to the U.S. would never have been granted.

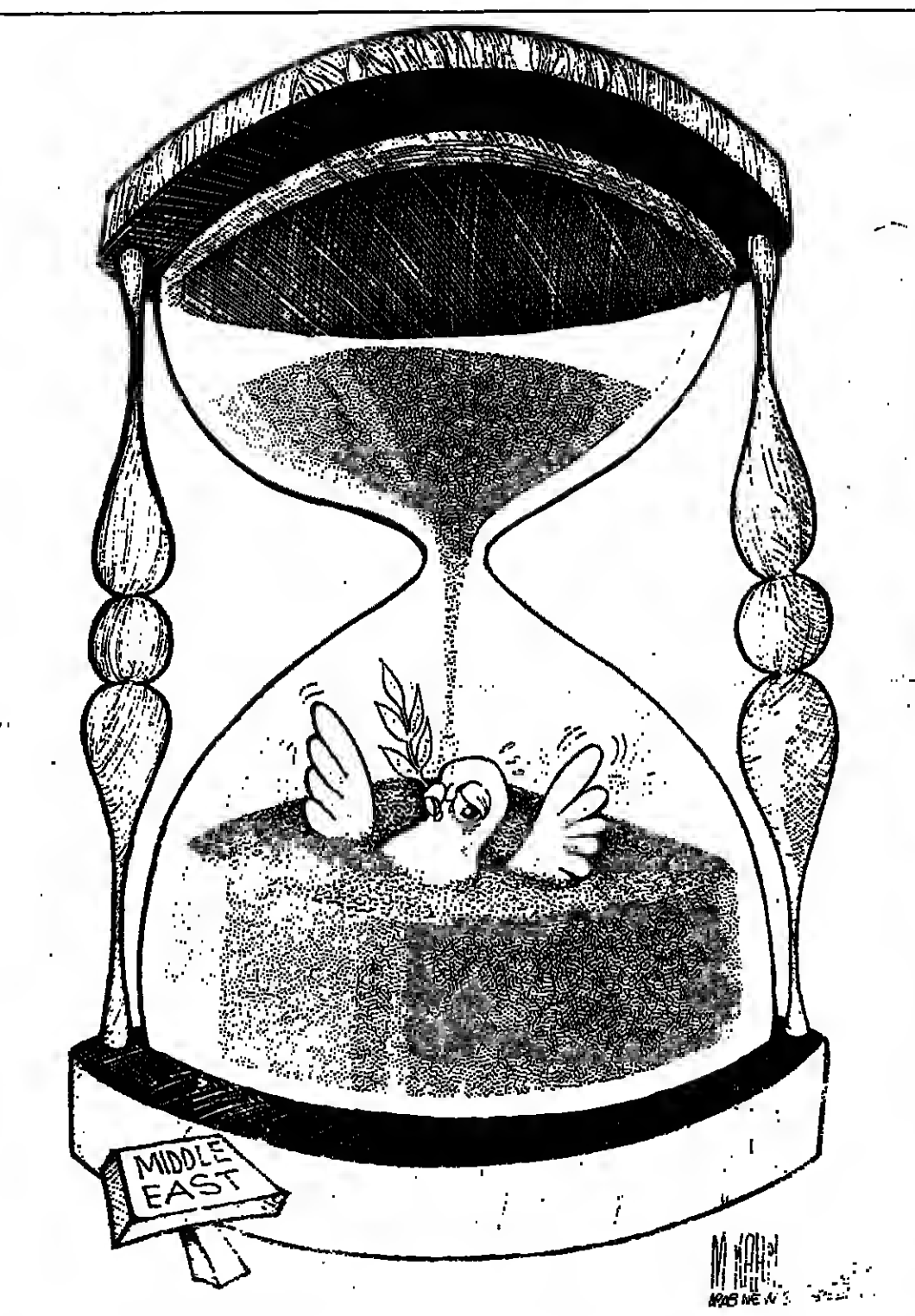
Thus it is indeed ironic that the U.S. government still refuses to recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and rejects the idea of making any official contacts with it. The PLO has gained world-wide recognition, and the Arab countries have long regarded it as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The Palestinian people in turn have invariably demonstrated their faith in the PLO, in spite of all the persecution and sufferings they have had to endure for such an opinion.

The Village Leagues, that is the tools of the Israeli occupation authorities, have been openly

denounced by the Palestinians as traitors to their country and people, in spite of the repressive measures that this action has brought upon them.

Yet, the U.S. government, which says that it wants representative Palestinians to talk to, disregards all the above-mentioned considerations in welcoming the league delegation. It would not surprise us if these people were soon hailed as representative of the Palestinian community by the U.S. government.

The U.S. indifference towards Israel's attitude regarding the Taba dispute with Egypt, the American passivity towards the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and its continued criminal presence and practices, and lastly the recent American gesture towards enemies of the Palestinian people like those in the Village Leagues do not seem to promote confidence in Americans proclaimed role of Mideast peacemaker.



Shultz assures Japan

By Yuko Nakamido
Reuter

TOKYO — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz apparently succeeded during a three-day visit to Tokyo in allaying Japanese fears about the Reagan administration's policy towards nuclear missile talks with the Soviet Union.

But differences persisted on trade and defence. Mr. Shultz, who later left for China, told Japanese leaders they must make further efforts to improve Japan's defences and open its markets to U.S. imports.

The Japanese have expressed concern that Moscow may move some of its SS-20 medium-range missiles from Europe to Siberia. But Mr. Shultz assured Prime

Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe that in seeking nuclear weapons cuts, the Reagan administration would never agree to a deal that might appear good for Europe but bad for Asia.

He told them the U.S. would negotiate with the Soviet Union from a world viewpoint, Japanese and U.S. officials said.

A foreign ministry spokesman described Mr. Shultz's assurance on the SS-20s as "the best conceivable one under the present circumstances while the Geneva Intermediate Nuclear Force (INF) talks are under way."

For their part, Japan's leaders backed President Reagan's "zero option" proposal, which calls on the Soviet Union to dismantle its medium-range missiles aimed at Western Europe in exchange for abandoning plans to deploy U.S. Cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in five West European countries.

According to Japanese officials, Mr. Shultz said Washington would keep the zero option proposal on the table, at least for the present. The secretary of state told reporters, however, the U.S. was willing to listen and talk to the Soviet Union about any reasonable proposal.

The mass-circulation Japanese daily, Asahi Shimbun, said despite Mr. Shultz's assurances, misgivings remained on whether SS-20s would be totally withdrawn from both Europe and the Far East, reduced at the same rate, or cut in Europe but left intact in the Far East.

But Mr. Shultz told a press conference that Japan's 6.5 per cent increase in defence spending for the fiscal year starting in April was insufficient. "A greater effort is necessary for Japan to fulfil its mission to defend its air and sea lanes," he said.

Mr. Nakasone has already come under attack from opposition leaders claiming Japan is being drawn into Washington's global military strategy and is in danger of being committed to collective security, which the Japanese constitution bans. Mr. Shultz denied there was a trade-off between Japan's defence build-up and a solution to its trade disputes with the U.S.

He renewed U.S. demands, however, for Tokyo to take further measures to open its markets to U.S. goods, particularly beef and citrus fruits. Mr. Shultz stressed the Reagan administration wanted the Japanese government to put into practice its pledges on opening its markets. The United States had a huge trade deficit with Japan last year — \$18.9 billion according to U.S. statistics, \$12.1 billion according to the Japanese.

U.S. trade representative William Brock is due in Tokyo on Feb. 10 to put more pressure on the government to take action. His visit coincides with a stopover by Mr. Shultz when he will brief Japanese officials on his Peking visit.



Mr. Shultz

Lessons learned from the Falklands war

Argentina is swiftly rearming after its defeat

By Robert Powell
Reuter

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina is swiftly rearming after its defeat in the Falklands (Malvinas) conflict six months ago and the air force's depleted fighter squadrons are already back to full strength.

Diplomatic and arms trade sources say Argentina has taken delivery of about 54 Mirage-111 fighter-bombers in recent months, to replace a similar number of Mirages and A-4 Skyhawks shot down during the brief war with Britain.

Peru has sold its close ally 10 Mirages, and the rest have been supplied by Israel, which manufactures the aircraft under licence from France. The latest batch of 19 Mirages arrived from Israel in December, along with a consignment of weaponry for the planes supplied by France, the sources said.

Argentina's arms purchasing campaign goes much further than simply replacing equipment lost in the fighting. Battle experience revealed crucial gaps in Argentine defence capacity and military commanders are determined to buy large amounts of sophisticated new equipment to make good this deficiency.

The main priorities are

maritime patrol aircraft, anti-aircraft defences, transport and attack helicopters and infra-red sights for accurate night firing, the sources said. The armed forces are anxious to place firm orders for this equipment soon so as to complete what they regard as essential arms purchases before returning the country to elected government at the end of this year.

Some of the new equipment has already started flowing in. Military sources said the Argentine navy recently bought a number of Lockheed Electra airliners second-hand from the United States for conversion into maritime patrol aircraft. They are being fitted with sophisticated radar systems, acquired separately, and will be used to detect shipping within several hundred miles of the Argentine coast.

Lack of information

Argentina suffered from a lack of adequate maritime patrol aircraft during the Falklands conflict and was forced to borrow two twin-engined Bandeirante patrol planes from Brazil. Small civilian jets were also requisitioned to scan the sea area between the Falklands and the Argentine coast.

The air force complained that a lack of information about suitable

targets prevented it from attacking the 110-ship British task force on 13 of the 45 days of the fighting.

Aircraft played a major role in the campaign and Argentine forces in the Falklands suffered demoralising daily raids from British Harrier jets which their anti-

Argentina's arms purchasing campaign goes much further than simply replacing equipment lost in the fighting. Battle experience revealed crucial gaps in Argentine defence capacity...

aircraft batteries were unable to keep at bay.

The only types of anti-aircraft weapons to prove effective against the onslaught were Franco-German Roland missiles and Swiss Oerlikon radar-guided rapid-fire canon. According to arms trade sources, large orders for more of both are on the way.

The Argentine army was also impressed by Britain's tactical use of helicopters to move combat units speedily over difficult terrain near the battle front. Diplomatic sources said Argentina had recently started training a brigade of heli-borne commandos near Cordoba, 700 km north-west of Buenos Aires.

The brigade is to be equipped with about 34 Puma heavy transport helicopters and some smaller Gazelles, for which Argentina is negotiating with France, the sources said. France has emerged as one of Argentina's main arms suppliers since the Falklands conflict, especially of aircraft. Last

November it delivered nine more super Etendard naval attack aircraft to the Argentine fleet air arm, together with their complement of Exocet missiles, responsible for sinking two British ships during the Falklands conflict.

Deliveries

Other reports of deliveries of military aircraft to Argentina since the end of the conflict include three Puma helicopters acquired in France and a number of Lockheed C-130 transport planes, bought from the United States.

The navy, which lost a cruiser and submarine, both World War

II vintage, in the Falklands war, is about to reap the fruits of a major re-equipment programme ordered four years ago after a dispute with Chile over the Beagle channel.

The first of four frigates being built in West Germany is to be handed over this year, along with the first of two submarines. The navy is also building six corvettes and four submarines with German technical assistance in its own shipyards.

The Argentine navy now has only two submarines in serviceable condition, but the rapid expansion of its submarine force over the next two years will pose a serious threat to British naval ships operating in the Falklands.

Central bank sources estimate that arms purchases between 1978 and 1982 account for about \$ 3 billion of Argentina's \$43 billion external debt. However, the amount being spent on arms purchases as a direct result of the Falklands conflict is difficult to gauge.

According to arms trade and diplomatic sources, the real value of arms purchases is heavily inflated by the cost of bribes to officers who arrange the deals. Some purchases are also paid for out of secret funds which do not

appear in published government accounts.

Domestic industry

Arms dealers say Argentina's foreign debt crisis and deep economic recession are making it difficult for the armed forces to obtain large amounts of foreign currency for cash purchases. The domestic Argentine arms industry produces a medium-sized tank and the Pucara counter-insurgency aircraft, with heavy inputs of West German and French parts and technology.

Argentina is also building a prototype jet trainer, the IA-62, in collaboration with the West German firm Dornier. The first plane is due to make its maiden flight in late 1984.

State arms factories manufacture small arms, machine guns, some heavy artillery pieces and ammunition.

Longer-term Argentine defence plans include the replacement of Mirage 111s and Skyhawks by more sophisticated supersonic fighters. According to diplomatic sources, the U.S. F-5 Tigerhawk, the French Mirage 2000 and even Soviet aircraft have been considered, but no orders are expected in the near future.

LETTERS

Just an educational proposal.

To the Editor:

I suggest that the Ministry of Education change the dates for the academic year.

All schools, colleges and universities should be open between April 1 and Dec. 31. The annual vacation would then correspondingly run from Jan. 1 to March 31. There are many advantages to be gained from such a change of the academic year:

— Our students would not be snow or rain-bound and have their studies halted from time to time, as is now the case every winter. — They would not have to freeze in cold schoolrooms without central heating. — We could keep the numbers of influenza and bronchitis cases down.

— The children and teenagers could stay away from dangerous icy roads and hence be protected from traffic accidents. This is just a proposal, but I hope our Ministry of Education will consider it most carefully.

Ali Mansour
Jordan University
Amman

لجنة التعليم

Beginning a series on training and employment opportunities for women in Jordan

A woman's place is--where?

This article is based on two sample surveys undertaken for the Ministry of Labour and the Vocational Training Corporation, with the assistance of a USAID grant, under the direction of project manager Dr. Abdalla Malki.

The economic development achieved by Jordan during the seventies absorbed surplus labour, thus bringing the labour market to more or less full employment. The Jordanian labour market has in fact suffered from quantitative shortages which have been met by importing labour from abroad. But it is still suffering from certain qualitative shortages whose severity has not subsided.

Under such conditions, countries like Jordan draw, sooner or later, on their stock of female manpower in an attempt to increase women's participation in the labour force as a means of meeting existing shortages. Simultaneously, they launch on the job-training programmes in a quest to break qualitative bottlenecks through up-grading the skills of workers already in employment.

The establishment of the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) in 1976 showed the preoccupation of labour policy-makers with upgrading the competence of labourers already at work—through specially tailored in-service training programmes—and that of newcomers to the market, through vocational apprenticeship courses.

It is undoubtedly true that increasing the participation of women in the labour force can

neither be decreed nor achieved overnight. This is a process which is evolutionary in nature and therefore slow, and is a function of a set of variables which are interwoven into the social fabric. These particularly reflect the social value-system, and attitudes towards work in general and women's work in particular, in addition to pure economic imperatives (particularly inflation), and individual ambitions and aspirations.

No conflict

No matter how reasonable and strong the above arguments are and how rigid the social value-system is, certain kinds of work are by their very nature appropriate to women and do not conflict with the disciplines of even a rigid value-system. It is possible therefore to raise the participation rate of women in the labour force through encouraging more women to engage in those very sorts of activities which do not impinge upon the prevalent value-system.

Social values and attitudes are not necessarily the main impediments to a woman working outside the home. Logistical factors could be at work in a good many cases (lack of transportation, ignorance of available job opportunities, absence of child care facilities, etc.).

As the industrial revolution proceeds, some social values, no matter how deep-seated they are, start to weaken or crumble altogether, thus giving way to a wider participation of women in the labour force. Inflation, one might say, is the most conspicuous

economic variable which operates to transform the composition of the labour market in any society. By raising the cost of living, inflation compels a greater number of households to send more of their members to the labour market.

Some of the newcomers to the market happen to be women who so far have opted to stay jobless at home. In consequence, the female participation rate moves up. Because Jordan has already entered the era of inflation, one might safely and justifiably conclude that women's participation rate is bound to creep up. The question is one of magnitude rather than of direction.

It is plausible to say that Jordanian policy makers have become concerned to meet labour shortages through increasing participation of women in the labour force, as an alternative to labour imports. This new concern and the above-mentioned impacts and implications of inflation strongly suggest that the employment of women will constitute one of the central future issues.

Important questions

To conceive the potential developments in this sphere, it will be useful to familiarise ourselves, at this stage, with a number of questions including:

- 1- The attitude of women, their guardians, and employers towards women employment.
- 2- The kind of jobs preferred by women and what motivates them to seek employment.
- 3- Employment terms and conditions conducive to a higher rate

of women's participation in the labour force.

4- The kind of vocational training and vocational apprenticeships to be provided for women, which are at the same time compatible with the current needs of the Jordanian economy.

5- Performance of women currently employed.

6- The positive and negative aspects of women's employment.

7- The factors that have impeded or might impede the increase in the rate of women's participation in the labour force.

8- The effects on women's willingness to work of certain variables, namely religion, educational level and environment (rural or urban).

This survey study was conducted to shed light on some of the issues raised above.

The study was made up of two sample surveys. The first survey covered the female students in the 3rd preparatory class in the schools of the Amman-Zerqa area. The second survey covered employers in the same area.

Students' sample survey

The students' sample survey was based on statements collected from a sample of 3rd preparatory class female students for the scholastic year 1980-81 in the Amman-Zerqa area. All girls' schools were included whether sponsored by the Ministry of Education (MOE), UNRWA, Ministry of Defence (MOD) or private sector. The survey did not include all girls' schools in Jordan due to time and financial limitations. The reason for picking 3rd

preparatory class female students was obviously the fact that this is the class after which students have the choice of pursuing either academic or vocational schooling.

The students sample survey covered 9.1 per cent of the 3rd preparatory class female students in the Amman-Zerqa area, 13.1 per cent of the students interviewed lived in urban areas and 86.9 per cent in rural centres. Muslim students accounted for 94.5 per cent and Christian students for 5.5 per cent.

Around 61.0 per cent of students interviewed belonged to governmental schools, 32.8 per cent to UNRWA schools and 6.0 per cent to private schools. Some 86.1 per cent of the students' families had an average monthly income of less than JD 300, 5.5 per cent had JD 300 and 41.1 per cent an average monthly income ranging from JD 100 to 199. Variations in income levels were greater between Muslim students' families than within Christian students' families.

Academic aspirations were dominant among students interviewed: around 86.3 per cent of them wished to acquire an academic qualification, while 10.8 per cent would go for vocational education, which was a very low percentage. There was no evidence that religion, environment or type of school had any effect on educational aspirations, but it seemed that the higher the income, the less the aspiration for vocational education. However, after the field researchers had explained to the students that vocational apprenticeship programmes would end up with a guaranteed job, the percentage of students who said they were interested in joining vocational apprenticeship programmes jumped up to 75.4 per cent even though a lot of them harboured academic aspirations. It was found that 46.8 per cent of the students were not familiar with vocational apprenticeship programmes organised by Vocational Training Corporation (VTC).

Teaching preferred

Teaching is the profession most preferred by students (especially governmental school students), followed by secretarial work (especially by private school students), nursing (especially by private school students) as well as beauty culture which was equally preferred by students of various schools, and lastly dressmaking which appealed most to governmental school students.

Other professions considered by the students were, in preference order, child care, paramedical work, operating telex and teleprinter, architectural drafting and lab-techniques. The least preferred trades were trades related to hotel and restaurant work, factory work and electrical work. It was found out that the basic factors which determined the choice of the preferred career were firstly the student's own decision, then the advice of the family and lastly from television information.

For the students interviewed, the preferred places of work were,

in order of preference, the school, the government office, the hospital, commercial and services establishments, the home and nurseries. The factory was the least preferred place of work. Accordingly, the careers which combined the most preferred places of work (top three after school) with the strongest interest on the part of the students were secretarial work, nursing, paramedical work, lab-techniques, and operating telex and teleprinter.

Around 89.3 per cent of the respondents felt that the increase in the number of women who work outside the home was a good thing for Jordan. The percentage of students who intended to seek a job outside the home reached 81.7 per cent but went up to 90.0 per cent for the Christian students against 81.3 per cent for Muslim students. The motive for intention to work outside the home was, firstly, avoidance of boredom, secondly supplementing the income of the family, thirdly, increasing the personal income of the student herself and lastly providing female capabilities. Supplementing the family income dominated the UNRWA school students, while increasing personal income dominated governmental school students. The other two motives (avoiding boredom and proving female capabilities) were most conspicuous among private school students.

Impact of religion

The survey produced some good data on the attitudes of the students' guardians towards their working outside the home. About 62.2 per cent of the students claimed their guardians approved the idea unconditionally, 16.8 per cent said their guardians disapproved, 13.8 per cent said their guardians approved their work under certain conditions, and the rest were undecided. The impact of religion was evident; guardians' disapprovals dropped to only 1.7 per cent for Christian students, as compared with 17.7 per cent for Muslim students. Three reasons for disapproval were the conviction that "a woman's place is at home" (65.2 per cent), the inappropriateness for women to work at close quarters with men (36.5 per cent) and the going to and coming back from work unaccompanied, which was "not proper".

The study suggests that marriage adversely affects women's work outside the home because some women decide to leave work of their own accord, after marriage. The percentage of students who planned to work after marriage reached 47.6 per cent which was far below the percentage of students who said they intended to work outside the home (81.7 per cent). The other reason why marriage adversely affects women's work is that some (19.2 per cent of them in our survey) would let their husbands make the decision. If he does not want them to work, they will quit work even though their own wish may be otherwise.

--To be continued tomorrow



Teaching emerged from the survey as the favourite profession for girls (UNRWA photo)

Randa Habib's CORNER

Making doctors accountable

The other day someone was telling me that Jordanians should sue doctors more often as this will make them more conscientious in their work.

This idea has some sense if we consider that the threat of being sued can render doctors more careful. How many incomplete medical complications? How many persons were dragged on to operating tables while their cases required external treatments only?

These problems of medical negligence, sometimes motivated by financial greed, exist all over the world. The only difference is that in certain countries, like the USA for example, medical negligence, if proved in court, can be very costly for the doctor.

If Jordanians are encouraged to sue unscrupulous, incompetent or negligent doctors, this would serve to put forward the good doctors who would be the first to encourage the establishment of such procedures. The threat of being sued, while making a doctor more meticulous, has never rendered him more competent. Yet this threat would serve to minimise the practice of some operations such as tonsillectomy, appendectomy etc. that are often made without any real cause.

However there is the other side of the story. Let us avoid falling into excesses like some countries where the excess of cases raised against doctors have made them refuse to operate for fear of legal proceedings. Let us be moderate.

We have good doctors in Jordan who have the advantage of being human and understanding. It gave me great pleasure the other day when I heard a famous cardiologist to whom I was totally unknown saying to his secretary "Do not take any money from Mr. X. The poor man cannot afford to pay."

Opinion -- Al Ra'i

Democracy must prevail

By Fahd Al Rimawi

It is sorrowful to watch the obstacles being placed by different parties on the path of an independent Palestinian decision at the forthcoming Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers this month. Attention has been attracted by threats to "liquidate" PLO chairman Yasser Arafat originating in Damascus, and by news of a Palestinian "peace" document presented by Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij to Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali in Cairo last week.

The Damascus rumours are certainly a threat to the Palestinian armed struggle, but the Cairo news is a threat to Palestinian democracy. The Palestinian revolution depends on both the armed struggle and democracy.

Palestinian democracy in the absence of the armed struggle would simply have turned into a fruitless debate, but the gun -- in the absence of democracy -- can stand for nothing but adventurism.

Though we deplore the threats against Arafat's life, we cannot stomach the calls for singling out Yasser Arafat as a top authority, to be given an open mandate for individually making the Palestinian decision. He is only a human being susceptible to all kinds of good and bad influences.

The Palestinian question is undergoing the most crucial and critical stage of its history.

And this necessitates the co-operation of all minds and hands in an evolutionary interaction of views and efforts, not only at the Palestinian level, but also at the pan-Arab level, to assess the best possible formula for future action.

The Arab Nation has tragically suffered from the shortcomings of individualistic leadership. The experiences of the last thirty years consistently illustrate that such a trend of leadership has been the springboard for all the calamities that have befallen us, from Jamal Abdul Nasser, to Mohammed Siad Barre.

Moreover, crucial moments necessitate the decentralisation of authority, and call for a multi-sided approach to issues which allows conflicting views to interact.

I, regrettably, must call attention to what is happening on the other side. Our Zionist enemy has invariably beaten us militarily and democratically. No Israeli has ever been heard threatening to kill Ben Gurion or Begin, and at the same time no one has ever been heard to ask for a personal mandate to handle Zionist affairs.

Despite all the proposals, counter-proposals and threats under the Palestinian umbrella, we still hope that the forthcoming session of the PNC will put the Palestinian house in order in a balanced and well-integrated way.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL
17:30 Cartoons
18:00 Children's Programme
18:30 Spon
19:00 Muppet Show
19:30 Programmes Review
20:00 Armed Forces Programme
20:30 News in Arabic
21:00 Arabic Series
21:40 Arabic Varieties
22:30 Panel Discussion
23:05 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy: The Other Art
21:00 One Hundred Great Paintings
21:10 Documentary: Hard Choices
22:00 News in English
22:15 The Agatha Christie Hour: The Girl in the Train

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
8:00 Morning Show
9:00 News Summary
10:00 Morning Show
10:30 News Summary
11:00 Pop Session
11:30 News Summary
12:00 News Bulletin
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Bulletin
13:30 Instrumentals
14:00 Peak Time
14:30 Concert Hour
15:00 News Summary
15:30 Instrumentals, Old Favorites
16:00 First Spin
16:30 News Summary
17:00 Animal, Vegetable, Mineral
17:30 News Bulletin
18:00 News Summary
18:30 News Bulletin
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BBC WORLD SERVICE
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SPORTS

England loses hopes to compete in finals

Australia beats N. Zealand

PERTH (R) — A remarkable catch by Jeff Thomson ensured Australia beat New Zealand in the World Series cricket cup match here Sunday and ended England's hopes of competing in the best-of-three finals.

Australia's 27-run win gave them second place at the end of the 15-match preliminary series and they will now meet New Zealand, who led the qualifying table, in the finals starting in Sydney on Wednesday.

England needed New Zealand to win Sunday if they were to squeeze Australia out of the finals. The prospect of this happening never looked brighter than when New Zealand's ninth-wicket pair John Morrison and Martin Snedden were together.

They joined up at 125 for eight in reply to Australia's 50-over tally of 191 for nine and quickly added 37, Thomson then made his decisive intervention when Snedden lofted Geoff Lawson over mid-on. He dashed 10 paces to his left and when he dropped the ball in important catch seemed to have gone begging. But somehow he managed to latch onto it with a despairing left-handed swipe.

When Lawson bowled Ewen

Chatfield two runs later New Zealand were all out for 164 with one ball of the 45th over remaining.

One of the most revealing statistics of an exciting match was that no batsman exceeded the 34 extras in Australia's innings. It underlined that the pitch was not altogether reliable and that the bowling was generally superior to the batting.

New Zealand's bowling effort would almost certainly have been even better had not Richard Hadlee left the field with a leg strain having taken one for seven in five overs.

Wicketkeeper Rodney Marsh, named man of the match after top scoring for Australia with 31 and taking four catches, said: "We were lucky Richard did not play out his 10 overs. I don't think we would have got a hundred if it hadn't been for that."

New Zealand captain Geoff Howarth said: "He felt a little bit of a twinge in the last two balls of his fifth over. As a precautionary measure we took him off."

The decision of the Australian selectors to call up a new first-wicket pair was rewarded with an opening stand of 65 between Graeme Wood and Steve Smith.

Australia then slipped to 118 for five, Hadlee achieving the main breakthrough when he bowled the dangerous David Hookes for 12, and it was left to Greg Chappell and Marsh, who added 41 for the sixth wicket, to give Australia's attack a total to bowl at.

Rodney Hogg howled Howarth for eight when New Zealand started their innings. John Wright and Glenn Turner then took the score to 61 before Dennis Lillee made a telling contribution by removing Turner, for 30, and Jeff Crowe with successive hits.

The only other time New Zealand looked capable of making enough runs to win was when Morrison and Snedden were in partnership.

The result completed a dismal tour for the England team, who watched Sunday's match on television at their Sydney hotel. Their elimination from the World Series Cup followed their 2-1 defeat in the tests.

They now go on to New Zealand for three one-day international matches hoping they can start to solve some of their problems before the World Cup in England in June.

France advances towards Rugby Union Championship

LONDON (R) — French flair triumphed over Scottish spirit in Paris Saturday as France took a further step towards the five nations' Rugby Union Championship.

But the French were given a severe fright by Scotland who held the home side to 15-15 until nine minutes from fulltime when left winger Patrick Esteve powered through four Scottish defenders to score in the corner.

Scotland's 19-15 defeat followed their 15-13 loss to Ireland three weeks earlier, results which could have easily gone the other way.

The Scots have further opportunities against Wales and England this season to Polish their role as gallant losers, but nothing that happened in Cardiff Saturday will cause them any sleepless nights.

Wales and England stumbled their way towards a totally undistinguished 13-13 draw at the Arms Park in a match aptly summed up by former Welsh captain and present selector Clive Rowlands.

"The replay's on Wednesday... and I'm not going," Rowlands commented sourly.

By contrast the Paris match had most of the ingredients of a classic encounter, although there were too many unforced errors to make it a great match.

The game began explosively with the Scots forwards storming into their bigger and heavier opponents.

The visitors stunned the capacity Parc des Princes crowd when they quickly raced to a 12-6 lead

with the help of a fine try by winger Keith Robertson before the French displayed one of their characteristic flashes of brilliance.

The French forwards surged towards the Scottish line with a bewildering exhibition of close passing, then when they were finally held up the ball was swung left through the entire backline for Esteve to score unopposed.

Scotland to their credit came back immediately to tie the game at 15-15 at half-time and the stage was set for a thrilling second half.

Fittingly it was another touch of French genius that decided the match, helped by some deplorable Scottish defence.

French captain Jean-Pierre Rives set up the maul, the ball was again flicked at high speed through the French line with fullback Serge Blanco making the extra man for Esteve to force his way through four Scottish defenders and score in the corner.

Esteve, who is reputed to be able to run 100 metres in 11 seconds with his football boots on, was France's player of the match but fullback serge Blanco who made some dazzling runs was not far behind him.

In Cardiff England looked set to celebrate their first win at the Arms Park since 1963 when winger John Carelson scored in the 13th minute after some slick passing by his Leicester clubmates Les Cusworth and Dusty Hare.

Their scrumage stood firm against the seasoned Welsh front row and lock Steve Baldwinbridge had his most effective game for England in the lineouts.

But somehow they never established the control they should have over what must be one of the weakest sides to represent Wales and a try by flanker Jeff Squire gave Wales a 13-10 lead with only 12 minutes left on the clock.

Neither side really deserved to win through and justice was done in the end when Hare kicked a penalty with six minutes remaining to give him a record 140 points for England in internationals, two more than former fullback Bob Hillier.

Hare was the pick of the England players with an impeccable defensive display and some magnificent line kicking while the loose forward trio of Peter Winterbottom, John Scott and Nick Jeavons were fast and constructive.

The remainder though showed few signs of the reputations that installed them as championship favourites before the season began.

Wales were only a shadow of the great side that rode Roughshod over their opposition during the 1970s.

In fact for much of the match they looked as if they should have been more appropriately billed as "Terry Holmes and 14 others", although the great Welsh Scrumhalf did not have one of his best days.

Even the Welsh singing lacked its usual conviction and Wales on Saturday's performance look prime candidates to finish bottom of the table for the second consecutive season.

Forget is a name not to forget in tennis

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Forget is the name, but it is one that tennis fans should have very little trouble remembering in the years to come.

The player is 18-year-old Frenchman Guy Forget (pronounced gee-for-shay), the number one junior in the world in 1982 when he won the prestigious Orange Bowl and the Italian Open junior titles.

Forget played his first professional tournament last spring. His second senior appearance was before his hometown fans in the French Open in Paris where he beat Ilie Nastase before losing to Jimmy Connors in the third round.

His best Grand Prix showing to date was in Cincinnati last August when he was beaten by John McEnroe in the quarter-finals.

At the beginning of last year, Forget was not listed among the top 200 on the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) computer rankings. But by the end of 1982 he was ranked 70th and ready to graduate from the juniors.

Last week he beat American Van Winitsky 6-7, 7-6, 6-4 in the first round of the \$300,000 U.S. Indoor Championship before losing to Australian number one Peter McNamara.

"He has unbelievable ability. He could be another Yannick Noah, even better," said the Australian after his 6-3, 6-3 victory.

The Grand Prix circuit, where even the likes of Nastase is routinely beaten in the first round these days, is a tough world for a teenager.

But Forget, appears to have all the qualities. At six-foot one-inch and 160 pounds he hits the ball as hard as anybody on the forehand side. His backhand is not as formidable, while his serve is improving almost daily.

He hits the ball hard, but not always in, which led McNamara to describe him as "wild."

"We've been working to tighten up his game," said Australian Bob Brett, Forget's coach for the last four months.

To win on the pro tour a player must be tough physically and mentally and confident enough to go for the big shots on crucial points.

"The juniors have all the shots, but the men know how to pressure you," said Forget.

Forget's educational process is continuing off the court as well as on during his first winter on the indoor U.S. Grand Prix circuit. And he has become the object of good-natured practical jokes by compatriots Henri Leconte and Gilles Moretton.

For example, following his match against Winitsky this week, they told him he had been fined \$2,500 for conduct violations. The report proved false... and Forget is likely to have the last laugh.

McEnroe to face Lendl

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Top seed John McEnroe will get a chance to break a personal losing streak against Ivan Lendl when he meets the second-seeded Czechoslovak in the final of the \$300,000 U.S. professional indoor tennis championships.

McEnroe breezed past 16th-seeded fellow-American Tim Mayotte 6-3, 6-3 in one of Saturday's semifinals. Lendl, winner of 66 straight indoor matches, was extended by unseeded Bill Scanlon, 7-6, 7-6 in the later match.

The winner of Monday's final will collect \$54,000.

Lendl, 22, has not lost to McEnroe since the quarterfinals of the 1980 U.S. Open, and in their last seven matches Lendl has won 19 of 20 sets.

Scanlon, 26, played an intelligent, well-executed match. His strategy was to rally from the back court, using slice shots to the backhand to combat Lendl's power while waiting for the short ball or good serve to attack the net.

His patience bothered Lendl, who made numerous errors as he tried to finish the points quickly with big winners.

But in the end Lendl's power was too much for Scanlon.

Lendl served four love games in the first set and had 12 aces for the match. He was broken once in each set but in the following game broke right back.

In the final set tiebreaker Lendl held four match points at 6-2. But an apparent ace that was called out seemed to upset Lendl and he lost four straight points.

Scanlon, however, netted a simple backhand on the next point and Lendl followed with a blistering forehand for a match-ending winner.

Lendl is playing this week with a sore muscle in his right arm and is taking ice treatments after the matches. He said he will take the next two weeks off to rest.

McEnroe, meanwhile, vowed to go back to his usual aggressive, net-rushing game in hopes of finally beating Lendl.

"At least if I lose, I will lose faster," he said after his sharp serving and groundstroke performance against Mayotte.

Jaeger, Lloyd reach final

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Florida (R) — Second-seeded Andrea Jaeger defeated Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia, 6-2, 6-4 to bring her up against top seed Chris Evert Lloyd in the final of a \$150,000 women's tennis tournament.

Lloyd advanced to the final by scoring a 6-1, 6-1 victory over third seed Wendy Turnbull of Australia.

Jaeger breezed through the first set, taking advantage of Mandlikova's erratic play and controlling the action with her own steady style.

Fourth-seeded Mandlikova battled back in the second set. She answered Jaeger's service break in the third game with one of her own to draw even at 2-2 and started to get her serve-and-volley game together.

But well-placed lobs by Jaeger took the charge out of Mandlikova's attack and a service break at love in the seventh game boosted Jaeger to a 5-3 lead.

Jaeger took the charge out of Mandlikova's attack and a service break at love in the seventh game boosted Jaeger to a 5-3 lead.

Nishimura wins marathon

BEPPU, Japan (R) — Japan's Yoshitiro Nishimura won an international marathon here Sunday, heading a sweep for his country of the top nine places.

It was 25-year-old Nishimura's first marathon win — he was second in the race last year — and he took over the lead in the last five miles to come in with a time of two hours 13 minutes 55 seconds.

Tetsuo Urakawa, 21, competing in his first marathon, was second in 2:16.26, followed by Hiroshi Munakata with 2:16.52.

Wally Saeger of the United States was the highest placed foreigner, coming in 10th with 2:20.19.

India drops Viswanath from West Indies tour

NEW DELHI (R) — Gundappa Viswanath, second only to his brother-in-law Sunil Gavaskar as India's most prolific international run scorer, was omitted Sunday from the Indian cricket side to tour the West Indies later this month.

Viswanath, who played in a world record 87 consecutive tests, was in poor form in the recent series against Pakistan.

Left armers Dilip Doshi, India's leading spinner since the retirement of Bishen Bedi, has also been dropped.

The selectors have recalled veteran off spinner Srinivas Venkataraghavan who has taken 145 wickets in 50 tests stretching back to 1965. Venkataraghavan, 38, stepped into India on their English tour four years ago.

This side will be led by 24-year-old all-rounder Kapil Dev in

place of Gavaskar who has captained India for the past three years.

However Gavaskar, who has obviously been forced to take some of the blame for India's 3-0 defeat by Pakistan, retains his place in the side. The diminutive opener needs only three centuries to equal Australia's Sir Donald Bradman's record 29 test hundreds.

Gavaskar has been a prolific scorer on West Indian pitches, scoring 774 runs at the phenomenal average of 154.80 in his debut series 12 years ago.

The West Indian pace bowling was a lot friendlier in those days but Gavaskar has since shown that achievement was no fluke, considering that he alone of the world's great batsman has no chance of playing against Indian bowling.

India have also recalled opener Anshuman Gaekwad, who has batted well in partnership with Gavaskar, after a successful domestic season in place of the dashing Krishna Srikanth.

The team includes two newcomers, Gursaran Singh, a promising middle-order batsman, and reserve wicketkeeper Kiran More.

The team is: Kapil Dev (captain), Sunil Gavaskar, Mohinder Amarnath, Anshuman Gaekwad, Arun Lal, Dilip Vengsarkar, Asbok Malhotra, Yasbopal Sharma, Gursaran Singh, Madan Lal, Ravi Shastri, Balwinder Singh, Maninder Singh, Sivaramakrishnan, Kiran More and Srinivas Venkataraghavan.

The Indians will play five tests and three one-day internationals during their 11-week tour.

West Indian rebels to show their batting skill

CAPE TOWN (R) — The rebel West Indian cricketers will be looking for a vast improvement here Monday in the second of their six one-day matches against a South African XI.

The big-hitting West Indians were favourites for the one-day series. But instead it was the home side who did the big hitting Saturday in a total of 250.

Openers Barry Richards and Jimmy Cook put on 50 runs in the first 10 overs, Richards going on to make 102 in 149 minutes with a six and 14 fours.

The visitors mustered only 159 from their 50 overs to lose by 91 runs.

The West Indians face five matches in the next six days plus exhausting travel around the country in the final phase of their

controversial tour which has been internationally condemned and earned them a life-long ban from the game in the West Indies.

They are not expected to announce their team until shortly before Monday's game, but they must be considering bringing back spinner Derek Parry who returned match figures of seven for 157 in the first four-day match here two weeks ago.

Their famed four-pronged pace battery of Colin Croft, Sylvester Clarke, Ezra Moseley and Franklin Stephenson conceded 189 runs in 39 overs in Port Elizabeth Saturday, a rate of almost five an over which the touring side never came close to matching.

The South African selectors may make one change, opting for

the experience of middle-order batsman Ken McEwan in place of Kevin McKenzie.

South African XI (from): Jimmy Cook, Barry Richards, Peter Kirsten (captain), Graeme Pollock, Kevin McKenzie, Ken McEwan, Alan Kourie, Ray Jennings, Stephen Jeffries, Garth le Roux, Kenny Watson, Vincent van der Bijl.



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ECONOMY

China's oil output rises above target

PEKING (R) — China's oil production in January was 4.1 per cent over target at 8.84 million tonnes (64.5 million barrels) compared with a planned 8.5 million tonnes (62 million barrels), the New China News Agency reported.

It quoted an oil ministry spokesman as saying China should be able to hold production at around 100 million tonnes a year (two million barrels a day) up to 1985, as already announced.

But he said output had peaked at a number of old oil fields, and the increased water injection necessary meant a bigger proportion of water in the crude pumped out.

China's oil production totalled 102 million tonnes last year, a rise of 0.8 per cent but 3.8 per cent less than in the peak production year of 1979.

Creditors reschedule \$500m of Sudan's debt

PARIS (R) — Creditor countries have rescheduled around \$500 million of Sudan's debt due to be repaid in 1983, diplomatic sources said Saturday.

The sum, covering principal, interest and arrears, was rescheduled over 16 years with a six-year grace period by creditors, including the U.S., 13 European states and Japan, at a meeting in Paris this week. The rescheduling period is longer than normally granted to debtor countries because of Sudan's serious debt problems. In March last year creditors rescheduled Sudan's 1982 debt over a period of 10 years with a four-year grace period. Although a number of countries have larger debts, Sudan's debt, estimated at \$7 billion, is larger than its total export income, the sources said.

S. Africa abolishes dual rand rate, lifts financial controls

CAPE TOWN (R) — South

Africa Saturday took what Finance Minister Owen Horwood called a "giant step forward" in its monetary affairs by ending 22 years of exchange controls on non-residents and abolishing the dual rand rate from Monday.

Mr. Horwood called a surprise news conference — timed for the weekend when most world markets were closed — to announce the new financial measures.

He said he was certain they would be welcomed by foreign investors who had already poured 1.5 billion rand (\$1.4 billion) into South Africa since the so-called financial rand was introduced in 1979.

The financial rand, introduced as the blocked rand in 1961 after political unrest led to a massive outflow of capital, was the channel through which non-residents traded South African shares and assets.

On Friday, the financial rand was worth about 77.2 U.S. cents

and the commercial rand 92.9.

Financial analysts expect the new unitary rand to open on Monday between those two rates.

Mr. Horwood also said that he believed the new measures would improve South Africa's already high credit rating among foreign investors and prove of great advantage to its economy.

Calling the move "a very important milestone" in South Africa's financial history, Mr. Horwood said "it is a great step — a giant step forward."

First reaction among financial analysts was that the move would create some confusion initially, but would increase foreign investors' confidence in South Africa, as they would be able to get money out of the country freely.

Mr. Horwood explained that the South African move followed what he called a dramatic improvement in its economy, "a tremendous turnaround in a world economy which is in very poor shape."

As evidence, he cited South

Africa's balance of payments position, which from a deficit on current account on an annual seasonally-adjusted basis of about seven billion rand (\$6.5 billion) in the first quarter of last year had turned into a surplus of one billion rand in the last quarter.

This year should see a modest overall surplus, he said.

Mr. Horwood also said that since the second half of last year South Africa's net foreign reserves had increased by more than 2.5 billion rand and by about 3.6 billion rand if valuation adjustments were included.

"That is a very sound position for any country to be in," Mr. Horwood said.

Asked if the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which granted South Africa a 1.2 billion rand loan last November, had any influence on the decision, Mr. Horwood said "no, we took it on

our own initiative."

Reserve Bank Governor Gerhard de Kock, who flanked Mr. Horwood, said the IMF would welcome the move. "It is absolutely in line with what they want."

Mr. Horwood said the immediate impact of the new measures was impossible to predict.

He thought there might be a slight easing of the rand, even on Monday, and share prices might also move down temporarily.

But he was sure both would recover quickly.

On a cautionary note, Mr. Horwood warned that the monetary authorities should not lose control over money supply, credit and interest rates in the months ahead.

The need to maintain monetary stability and curb inflation — still too high at about 13.8 per cent a year — played a major part in the government's decision to scrap controls for non-residents, he said.

Australia opens door to foreign banks

SYDNEY — In Australia the

weather is a political issue, so it is hardly surprising the announcement that about 10 foreign banks were to be allowed into the country as a possible heralding of the opening up of the market fully to overseas competition should be greeted as a victory for Mr. John Howard, the federal treasurer.

The entry of foreign banks was the key recommendation of the Campbell Committee of Inquiry into the Australian financial system, which published its report 14 months ago.

Some within the treasury were not impressed with the foreign banks argument, but Mr. Howard has succeeded in his quest — overcoming opposition from within his own department and from parts of the ruling Liberal National Party coalition, some members of which feared that the entry of foreign banks might cost it votes in this year's general election.

The significance of Mr. Howard's success on the foreign banks issue lies in his position as deputy leader of the Liberal Party and the heir apparent to Mr. Malcolm Fraser, prime minister.

This bodes well, it is widely thought, for further progress along the road to the Campbell report vision of a more efficient, dynamic and equitable Australian

financial system.

Further details of the entry requirements for foreign banks followed.

Mr. Howard said that successful applicants would be required to establish reasonable branch networks, and that other criteria the government would consider included the level and quality of the Australian equity proposed; the standing and substance of the foreign banks' principals; range and depth of services offered; including branch networks; nature and scale of operations proposed; geographical spread; and whether there was full reciprocity of bank entry in the countries concerned.

Less important, said Mr. Howard, would be the applicants' former or current involvement in non-bank financial institutions in Australia, and other financial links with the country, including past involvement in government and private sector fund-raising.

As a criterion, "geographical spread" is being taken to imply that the initial 10 or so banks granted Australian licences will include at least three from Asia, at least three from North America, and at least three from the EEC.

Mr. Howard says: "Potential applicants are invited to submit to me an outline of their longer-term objectives in a detailed plan of intended activities over an initial

— say five-year — period,

together with an assessment (in detail) of how their participation would benefit the Australian economy."

Within minutes of Mr. Howard's announcement, which took Canberra by surprise, Bank of America was the first to say it would be applying for a licence under the terms outlined by the government.

A long list, growing by the hour, of other leading candidates included: Citibank, Chase Manhattan, Bank of Montreal and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

From Britain there were Barclays, National Westminster, Lloyds, Midland Bank, Samuel Montagu, Morgan Grenfell, Standard Chartered and Hill Samuel.

Deutsche Bank (which has long played a major role in Australian government fund-raising) was among European contenders, as well as Union Bank of Switzerland, Swiss Banking Corporation, Dresdner Bank and Amro Bank.

Bank of Tokyo, Mitsui Bank, Industrial Bank of Japan, Sanmei, and Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation are the leading Asian candidates.

It could be a lengthy business, particularly as numerous foreign banks already have close ties with Australia.

Bank of America, for example, has a merchant banking subsidiary, BT Australia, while Citicorp Australia (at present 100 per cent owned by Citicorp of the U.S.) has a chain of about 40 retail money shops, employs 1,400 and has assets of A\$2 billion (\$1.97

billion). In turn, it owns a 49.9 per cent stake in Citinational, the

merchant bank, with National Mutual Life of Australasia owning the remainder.

Other foreign groups that already operate merchant banks in partnership with Australian interest include Samuel Montagu, Morgan Grenfell, Chase Manhattan and Bank of Tokyo, while Hill Samuel Australia is prominently positioned, as a result of its pioneering of cash management trusts in Australia.

Thirteen Japanese trading banks have representative offices in Australia, and Standard Chartered has a finance subsidiary with a strong branch network.

Earlier, it was announced that Algemeine Bank of Holland, was taking a 50 per cent stake in Alpine Finance, a subsidiary of Mr. Kerry Packer's Consolidated Press Holdings. Alpine will be renamed ABN Australia. It has leasing and commercial hire purchase interests, and will also become involved in money market operations and corporate lending.

Its capital base is to be expanded to at least A\$10 million.

A crucial issue for most contenders will be the degree of local equity participation required by Mr. Howard in the new ventures.

The treasurer said that the policy regarding local equity participation would be basically the same as that applying to non-bank financial intermediaries — which allows scope for entry "on the basis of less than 50 per cent Australian equity where net economic benefits outweigh the general desirability of an effective partnership between Australians

and foreigners."

The other major stipulation is that foreign banks wishing to operate in Australia provide a wide range of services, and a reasonable branch network.

It is also unclear whether the treasurer envisages a gradual or mass entry of the chosen 10 into Australia, but it is thought likely that applications will be processed by the middle of the year, given the intense lobbying by foreign bankers to which Canberra has already been subjected.

However, Mr. Howard has said that it will be "some time, but certainly less than five years," before the government considered admitting any more.

There has been only one new trading bank licence granted in Australia since 1945 — to the Australian Bank, which received its licence in February 1981 after putting together a bank of 10 shareholders, including Swap Brewery and Myers Emporium, and raising A\$30 million (\$29.7 million) in initial capital.

In addition, there has been a contraction in the number of major trading banks operating in Australia, so that now there are only four: Westpac (formed from the merger in 1981 of the Bank of New South Wales and Commercial Bank of Australia), National Commercial Banking Corporation of Australia (formed from the merger of the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney and the National Bank of Australasia), Australia and New Zealand Banking Group, and the government-owned Commonwealth Banking Corporation.

It was this background, said Mr.

Howard, that underlined the need for foreign competition.

To date, the Australian banking market has been cluttered, costly, and highly profitable — though margins are under pressure, at present.

Westpac, for example, recorded a net profit of A\$215.6 million in the year to 30 Sept. 1982, which was only 0.5 per cent higher than the estimated combined profit of A\$214.4 million for Bank of New South Wales and Commercial Bank of Australia in 1980-1981.

Similarly, ANZ's net profit for the year to last Sept. was A\$180.5 million, against A\$175.4 million previously.

At the same time, Mr. Howard is determined to encourage (or at least not discourage) the formation of new domestic banks.

He said that the government would continue to impose no restrictions on new banks with only domestic shareholdings.

Indeed, to help the cause, he would amend, if necessary, the banks (Shareholdings) rules so as to remove "any particular limit on individual shareholdings while maintaining the government's right to approve all substantial shareholders in a bank."

The current limit on individual shareholdings in domestic banks is 10 per cent.

For some, the government is still moving too slowly.

Mr. Bob White, chief executive of Westpac, said it was a major disappointment that the treasurer had not, in addition to letting in foreign banks, lifted the controls on all bank lending below A\$100,000.

Financial Times news features

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, FEB. 7, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day of mixed influences as the early day brings you some unexpected benefits, so be alert to accept them. Much patience on your part is required now to gain your true aims.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Your hunches are good early in the day, so be sure to follow them. Handle all duties painstakingly and get excellent results.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A charming person can be very helpful to you early in the day. Take extra time to improve your appearance. Express confidence.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A good deal of work can be accomplished today by making proper plans. Rid yourself of whatever deters progress.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Try to be more helpful in your relationship with co-workers. Study reports and make sure they are accurate.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Go to the proper sources for the information you need. Financial affairs are best handled later in the day. Be more optimistic.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You could get a pleasant surprise early in the day, but could become frustrated over a minor matter later.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are able to reach a personal aim early in the day, but later unexpected difficulty arises. Relax at home tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are able to gain some aim that means much to you today. Avoid one who could harm you in some way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get in touch with as many friends as you possibly can and come to a better understanding with them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Find a better system for handling your mounting financial affairs. Sidestep a foe who keeps annoying you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Find the right way to gain your fondest aims and don't let others stop you. Be sure to improve your appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A day when you can use more imagination and get excellent results in career activities. Strive for increased happiness.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one of those fascinating young persons who will have a great interest in social activities and would do well in humanitarian work. Be sure to prepare a good education that will help bring this about.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Marie West

ACROSS 1 Half-off 25 Pillared 45 Mail 21 Once-named

10 Work units 38 Banter 47 Rousing 22 Dust Bowl

14 State at boldly 39 Criticizes 48 Alkarcation 25 Hurry

15 Actress 35 Certain 56 Intel 26 Predilection

16 Italian 36 Superlativa 57 Blase 27 Ready to go

17 Marine 37 Personal 58 Appraise 28 Uncovered

18 Spring (faka in water) 39 Snaffle 59 Unique 29 Lika thea

19 Dutch 40 Plane 60 Infirm 30 Bower

20 Package 41 Over 61 Privy to 31 Complaint

23 Trotsky or Urts 42 Content (with) 62 Repudiate 32 Part in

43 Went away 63 British 33 Colorado

64 Medieval 34 Ordered 37 Rid of rodents

38 Sure to succeed 44 Clitqua 42 Main traf-

45 Black suit 46 Baskar's true 48 Conch

49 Hammer or anvil 50 Tied 51 Columnist

52 Musical 53 Moving 54 School on the Thames

55 Cady or Clair 56 Fishcake 57 fish

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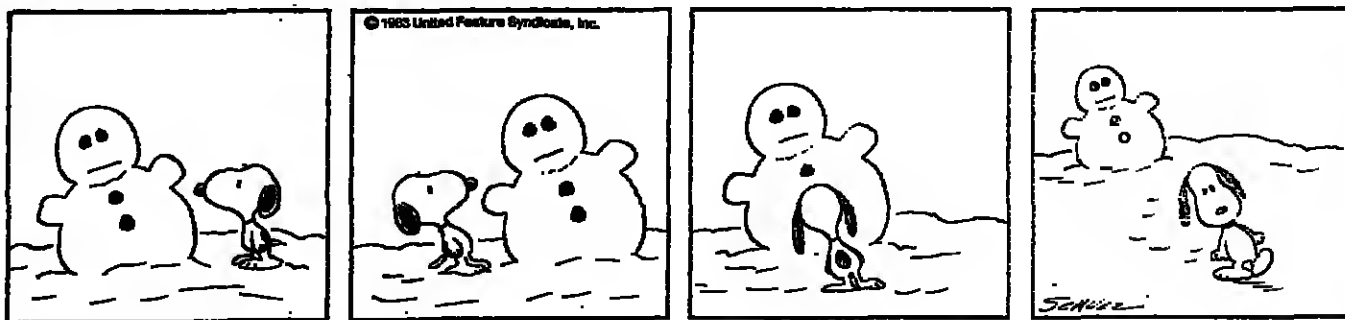
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THE BETTER HALF By Harris

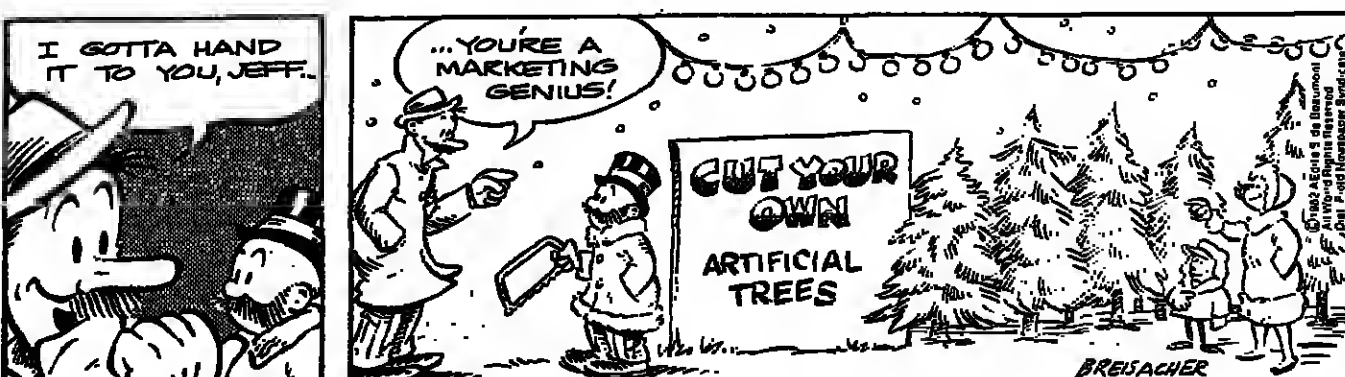
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"Stanley and I don't open our gifts until just before bedtime. That way we don't spoil the holiday arguing about what we got."

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YES TT

FETAC

REEMIP

HOYNUL

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SHEAF PUDGY BLOUSE CLOUDY

Answer: He turned down the job with that crooked high wire act because he didn't want to be this — THE FALL GUY

WORLD

Paraguay's general set to win

ASUNCION (R) — President Alfredo Stroessner, unchallenged ruler of Paraguay for 28 years, looked set to cruise into a seventh term of office Sunday after warning exiled opponents against sneaking into the country during general elections.

Leaders of minority opposition parties, many of them expelled by the Stroessner security machine, have denounced the elections as a sham.

They say they will return home when polling booths open this morning in a symbolic gesture "to demonstrate there is no democracy in Paraguay."

Although the state of siege in Paraguay's riverside capital was lifted for 24 hours from midnight, Interior Minister Sabino Montanaro said any attempt by exiles to enter the country by air or across the borders from neighbouring Argentina and Brazil would be quashed.

The threat to defy the government has come from leaders of four minority parties.

They are boycotting the elections, which pit the Liberal Party and Radical Liberal Party against the ruling Colorado (Red) Party of General Stroessner, who seized power in a coup in 1954 and has been re-elected regularly ever since.

The minority parties, which the government says do not have the necessary 10,000 members in put up candidates, are joined in a

centre-left "national accord". Many of their leaders either live in voluntary exile or have been deported.

Brazil-based exiles have refused to talk openly to the Paraguayan press about their plans, which has led to speculation that they will try cross the border in secret.

At a press conference in Buenos Aires on Friday night, reported by daily newspapers here Saturday, an exiled leader of the popular Colorado Movement (Mopoco) said the mission, called "Operation Return", was one of peace and goodwill.

Rejecting the interior minister's description of them as "subversive deportees", the exiles said: "The only weapon we carry is the truth and the right to live freely in our homeland."

Colorado Party leaders are confident the 70-year-old president will collect 94 per cent of the poll. In 1978, his party won 89 per cent of the vote with the Radical Liberals taking 5.5 per cent and the Liberals less than four per cent.

To ensure electors take the day seriously, police have slapped a nationwide ban on the sale of alcohol and the staging of films, plays and sports tournaments.

The elections have prevented most citizens of Asuncion, the country's only major city with a population of 700,000, from taking advantage of spending a long week-end in the country as part of a public holiday which began on Thursday.

Shultz in Seoul to reaffirm military ties

SEOUL (A.P.) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz flew here Sunday to signal what he called an unshakable commitment to South Korean security and "in pay my respects to the U.S. troops" who give that commitment its credibility and military punch.

Fresh from four days of talks with the highest leaders of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Shultz said that the areas of U.S.-Chinese agreement "appear to be much greater than the areas of disagreement."

"If we can maintain the spirit of the dialogue established in the last four days, we will gradually make headway in solving the problems," Mr. Shultz said in an airborne news conference aboard the air force jet taking him from Peking to Seoul.

In Seoul, he will meet with President Chun Doo-Hwan at the Blue House presidential residence and hold separate sessions with Prime Minister Kim Sang-Hyup and Foreign Minister Lee Bum-Suk.

On Monday, Mr. Shultz will don helmet and fatigues to travel by helicopter to the demilitarized zone separating South and North Korea in a flag-showing exercise to dramatise the U.S. commitment to the defence of the South Korean regime in Seoul.

Mr. Shultz did not appear to give much weight to reports of a new effort to recognise both the North and South Korean governments at the United Nations.

Mr. Shultz said the South Korean government has expressed "some disappointment" that the U.S. Congress did not approve President Ronald Reagan's request for foreign military sales credits at the level Reagan and South Korea wanted.

"We'll be trying to get these funds restored," Mr. Shultz said.

But he said there is an awareness in Seoul of the U.S. defence commitments to South Korea and, "I am coming here to further demonstrate them."

Basques apologise for killing bank employees

BILBAO, Spain — The separatist guerrilla group ETA has claimed responsibility for a bomb attack against a Bilbao bank Saturday but apologised for the death of two workers and wounding of seven, a Basque newspaper said Sunday.

The headline military wing of ETA (Euzko Askatasuna, or Freedom) said in a statement the bomb should not have exploded during working hours and may have been set off by unexpected manipulation, the daily Egin added.

"This explanation does not diminish our responsibility or justify an act which has caused so much suffering to the Basque working class," ETA said according to the paper.

The explosion, just before 0900 GMT, ripped through the foreign exchange department on the first

floor of the Banco de Vizcaya's tower block in central Bilbao.

The Vizcaya province's labour unions have called a banking strike Monday over the attack and the Basque country's parties, with the exception of the radical Herri Batasuna, will hold a protest demonstration.

The attack came three days after an initiative aimed at ending separatist violence collapsed over the ETA killing of a Civil Guard in the Basque town of Orduña.

The proposed talks would have included the ruling Basque Nationalist Party (PNV), the Basque Socialists and Herri Batasuna, regarded as ETA's political arm. But the Socialists pulled out after the attack and PNV leader Carlos Garaikoetxea, head of the regional government, said it was impossible to go ahead while violence continued.

Spanish state, church at odds over abortion

MADRID (R) — The battle lines for Spain's abortion war have been drawn with the church declaring active opposition to the Socialist government's reform plans.

The Spanish bishops said abortion could not fail to be judged morally as murder under any circumstances. They called the proposed law to legalise it "gravely unjust and totally unacceptable."

In a strongly-worded document issued Saturday night, the Episcopal conference said the bill, allowing abortion in cases of rape, malformation or where the mother's life was in danger, "would allow the norm to be used in cases where it apparently does not apply."

The bishops vowed to "oppose moral degradation" and urged believers in this predominantly Roman Catholic country to express disagreement and refuse

to cooperate in the practice of abortion.

The Socialist government is relying on its absolute parliamentary majority to push through reforms, mild by West European standards, to Franco-era abortion laws which provide for long prison terms.

But officials admit some Socialist votes could go against them and expect a major offensive from the main opposition party, the rightist Popular Alliance (AP), and organised "right-to-life" groups.

The Socialists also face opposition from leftist groups who consider the proposed changes too mild and from doctors' associations, already at odds with the government over moves to keep physicians from holding more than one state-paid job.

The country's major medical associations have said their ethics code is contrary to abortion.

Unscrupulous Greek ship owner jailed for 16 months

PIRAEUS, Greece (R) — A Greek shipowner who abandoned a crew in the Gulf War zone and left an unpaid wage bill of 21 million drachmas (\$250,000) was jailed for 16 months and fined by a court in Piraeus.

But the judge rejected the crew's claim that a British bank which lent the shipowner, Ioannis Christopoulos, \$10 million was also responsible for their plight.

He found that John Alcock, Piraean manager of Williams and Glyn's Bank, his assistant Stephen Funnell and his Greek employee Alexis Rodopoulos were not responsible for the management of the 9,486-ton Nicholas X.

A state prosecutor, acting for the seamen, took Christopoulos and the three bank officials to court after they failed to receive outstanding wages.

Christopoulos appealed against the jail term and a 1.8 million drachma (\$21,400) fine, but was

remanded him in custody pending the appeal hearing.

Seamen had to be held back from physically assaulting him as he was led out of court.

The 14 crewmen said they had been unloading iron from Turkey at the Iranian port of Bushehr last December when they heard from Christopoulos that he could no longer pay their wages and they would have to deal with the bank.

The men said they risked their lives by defying an Iranian court order not to leave the port and taking the ship, with almost no food on board, as far as the entrance to the Suez Canal.

George Iosifides, an employee of Christopoulos who signed the agreement hiring the seamen, was sentenced in his absence to eight and a half months in jail and fined 750,000 drachmas (\$8,900).

The judge issued an order for the arrest of Iosifides.

'Vacant' signs mushroom in Nigeria as expelled aliens go home

By Michael Battye
Reuters

LAGOS — "Situations vacant" notices are going up throughout Nigeria as employers try to replace hundreds of thousands of West Africans expelled as illegal aliens.

The popular government announcement on Jan. 17 giving illegal aliens — estimated to number up to two million — 14 days to leave has opened vast numbers of jobs to Nigerians.

More foreigners still must leave. The government, under pressure from federal departments and nationalised industries heavily reliant on skilled aliens, allowed such workers an extra month to go home.

The number remaining is unknown, though many employers suggest there are relatively few who decided to hold on until the last minute. The concession came a week after the first announcement and it appeared by then that most skilled workers had already left or been sacked.

Employers are already privately bemoaning the loss of what they considered to be industrious and reliable foreign workers. Many of them Ghanaians estimated to total over half the number of illegal immigrants previously in Nigeria.

So are the more affluent households, where families are finding it difficult to obtain Nigerian cooks, nannies and gardeners at the cheap rates the foreigners were happy to take.

The government has made no apologies and appears to be deriving a great many positive benefits. Nigeria, dependent on oil sales declining sharply in a prolonged world glut, no longer has the booming economy with vast public works spending that attracted so many people from the poorer states of West Africa.

The recession has bitten deep and making jobs for Nigerians appears to have been a major reason for the expulsions.

Because the measure was popular, there has been no serious opposition attempt to make political capital by criticising it.

Congress (I) leads in Delhi polls

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party established an early lead Sunday when first results were declared from Saturday's local Delhi elections.

With counting for six seats on the 100-seat municipal corporation complete, the Congress (I) had taken four and the right-wing opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) two.

On the 56-member Delhi Metropolitan Council, the Congress Party secured three of the first five seats declared, with the other two going to the BJP.

A victory in Delhi is important for Mrs. Gandhi following big defeats for Congress in two former bastions in South India in state elections last month. All results are expected to be declared Sunday.

In the northeast state of Assam, a Congress candidate for the state elections later this month was wounded when a bomb exploded in his car Saturday, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said.

At least 12 people have been killed and dozens wounded in pre-election violence in Assam during the last four days.

Curfews have been imposed on Tanga and two other towns. In Tanga, police shot dead at least four people when 1500 people attacked a police station.

On Wednesday another Congress (I) candidate, former Supreme Court Judge Baharul Islam, was wounded when two homemade bombs were thrown at his car.

PTI said homes and offices of Congress Party officials had also been attacked in the run-up to Assam's mid-month voting.

There is widespread Assamese opposition to the inclusion of illegal immigrants, mostly Bangladeshis, on electoral rolls.

The attacks, apparently inspired by groups opposed to the elections, present a security headache for police preparing for a visit to Assam by the prime minister on Thursday and Friday.

Militant Assamese political and student groups have urged a boycott of the poll, demanding that Bengali-speaking immigrants be removed from the rolls and expelled from the state.

The government has decided to send extra paramilitary police to the state to help quell the violence before the elections, due to start on Feb. 14.

Even Turkey puzzled by Mustafa Savas

ANKARA (R) — Mustafa Savas, the Turk charged by Milan Police Sunday with inciting another person to kill Pope John Paul II is a mystery figure in his own country.

"We are not even sure of his identity," a Turkish foreign ministry spokesman told Reuters.

Savas was charged with incitement to commit a crime, criminal conspiracy and drug offences. Milan police said another man, Antonio Arneli Grigi, alleged he was offered \$200,000 by Savas to kill the Pope during a scheduled visit to Milan by the pontiff later this year.

The news of Savas' detention earlier this week has puzzled Turks, in contrast to the arrest in May 1981 of Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turk convicted of shooting the Polish pontiff in St. Peter's Square in Rome.

Turkish officials say they have found no criminal record for Savas.

Stranded Kampucheans find haven in Thailand

BANGKOK (R) — Over 20,000 Kampuchean refugees stranded on the Thai-Kampuchean border were evacuated to safety in Thailand Sunday as fighting between Vietnamese-led troops and Kampuchean guerrillas subsided, Thai military sources said.

They said Thai soldiers early Sunday completed the evacuation of the refugees to Nong-Aek, 18 kilometres north of the Thai border town of Aranyaprathet.

The refugees had earlier congregated near a water-filled anti-tank ditch at Angsila on the border where they were exposed to Vietnamese shelling.

Last week, Thailand prohibited the refugees from crossing the ditch and moving farther into Thai territory. Seven of them were killed and two wounded by Vietnamese fire last Friday.

Following that incident, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and United Nations relief agencies gained Thailand's permission to move the refugees to safety.

The Vietnamese offensive is the

biggest so far in the current dry season. Hanoi's forces are backing the Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh against some 3,000 guerrillas of resistance leader Son Sann, prime minister of the United Nations-recognised coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea.

As border fighting entered its fifth day Saturday, Thai and Vietnamese troops exchanged artillery and mortar fire.

Thai sources said more Vietnamese attacks were expected against a string of bases held by Son Sann's Kampuchean People's National Liberation Front (KPRLF) just inside Kampuchea.

Thailand has protested to the United Nations at the Vietnamese offensive, saying it threatens Thailand's security.

Thailand will raise the question of the offensive during talks with Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa, who arrives in Bangkok Monday for a three-day visit. Mr. Kapitsa will visit Hanoi later.

Tokyo seeks Moscow's understanding on defence

UTSUNOMIYA, Japan (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Sunday the Soviet Union should understand that Japan's defence efforts were only to maintain peace under its war-renouncing constitution.

Soviet ambassador Vladimir Pavlov protested formally to the Japanese government on Friday at what he called increasing Japanese militarism.

In an apparent reference to the protest, Mr. Nakasone told a press conference Sunday in this city north of Tokyo that Moscow had reacted to remarks he had made in the Japanese parliament.

Unlike his predecessors Mr. Nakasone has been blunt in discussing Japan's military affairs in parliament and on a visit to Washington last month, where he was quoted as calling Japan an "unsinkable aircraft carrier."

Moscow's oral protest to Japan's foreign ministry said the controversial "carrier" reference and a joint Japanese-American study on protecting sea lanes near

Japan were evidence of a militarist trend.

Mr. Nakasone told the press conference: "Japan has been making its efforts only for the purpose of peace to defend its people's lives and property under the constitution. I want the Soviet Union to understand this way of thinking."

Mr. Nakasone said Japan also had to keep four small islands off eastern Hokkaido, the country's northern main island, as its territory. The Soviet Union has occupied the island, Kunashiri, Etorofu, Habomai and Shikotan, since 1945, and says it has no territorial dispute with Japan.

"The solution of the territorial problem is the focal point in negotiations with the Soviet Union. I would like to seek a solution," Mr. Nakasone said.

He said Susumu Nikaide, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, would go to Peking soon to assure China that Japan's defence policies remained with its constitution.

Probe under way to link Karen Carpenter's death with slimmer's disease

LOS ANGELES (R) — Coroner's officials are examining the possibility that singer Karen Carpenter, who died Friday of an apparent heart attack, was the latest victim of anorexia nervosa, the so-called "star's disease", a coroner's spokesman said.

Medical authorities estimate that anorexia nervosa — compulsive dieting leading to starvation — afflicts one in every 200 women in the city, including aspiring actresses.

A link between Miss Carpenter's death and anorexia nervosa is under study, a coroner's spokesman said.

Miss Carpenter, 32, who with her brother, Richard, formed the Carpenters — one of the most successful pop music groups of the 1970s — died at Downey Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles of what hospital officials said was a heart attack.

Her personal manager, Jerry Weintraub, revealed she had been treated for anorexia nervosa for the past 18 months.

"She had lost a considerable amount of weight over the past year," he said. "But she had gained much of it back."

Coroner's assistants said Miss Carpenter, 1.6 metres, weighed 48 kilograms when she died.

A two-hour post mortem carried out on Miss Carpenter Saturday night showed no immediate cause of death, a coroner's office spokesman said.

"A preliminary report showed there were no external injuries and there will be continuing laboratory tests and other studies..." he said.

Dr. Joel Yager, director of the eating disorder clinic of the University of California in Los Angeles, said between five and 15 per cent of the women in the city who suffer from anorexia nervosa die of the illness.

"The number of cases is especially high in Los Angeles because of the image-conscious nature of the city, with its film and television studios," he said.

Security companies are also finding it hard to recruit guards for industrial and domestic premises.

Ghanaians and people from Niger dominated the business, but Nigerians appear unwilling to take the sub-minimum wages accepted by the aliens. The minimum wage is currently 120 naira (\$180) a month.

Diplomats here say external repercussions are likely to be much more negative.

Nigeria, since the return of civilian government in 1979 after 13 years of military rule, has been held up as a leading example of democracy in Africa. As the richest black African country, it has played a leading role in continental politics and is regarded by many moderate states as an "elder brother."

That image looks certain to be dented. Liberian head of state Samuel Doe was quoted as saying that Nigeria had become a disappointing example to Africa and he expressed fear that other African states might retaliate by expelling Nigerians living, often illegally, in other parts of West Africa.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pope to visit Central America

VATICAN CITY (R) — Pope John Paul II announced he would visit seven Central American countries and Haiti at the beginning of March. Speaking at his weekly Angelus prayer, the Pope said he would go to Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Belize and Haiti on the pilgrimage. Until Sunday there had been no confirmation from the Vatican of reported plans for the Pope's visit, his 17th foreign trip in the four years and five months of his pontificate.

Kennedy out to get rid of Reagan

WASHINGTON (R) — Sen. Edward Kennedy, trying to re-establish himself as a powerful voice in the opposition Democratic Party, marked President Reagan's administration with an "F" — "Failure, favouritism and economic fantasy." In a heavily-applauded speech to the Democratic national committee, he said he would do all he could to drive the Republicans from the White House although he would not seek the 1984 presidential nomination himself.

Chinese examine mysterious animal

PEKING (R) — Scientists are examining a mysterious animal with the head of an ox and the feet and tail of a goat discovered by peasants in Central China, a Canton newspaper said. The Yangcheng Evening News said the animal, a female, weighed more than 300 kilograms and ate mainly bamboo. It was caught last month in Hubei Province, also reported to be the home of an ape-like creature which lives in the mountains and resembles the so-called "abominable snowman" of the Himalayas.

Yugoslav leader harangues Albania

BELGRADE (R) — A senior Yugoslav leader has accused neighbouring Albania of stirring up trouble by claiming parts of Yugoslavia populated by ethnic Albanians. Mr. Fadil Hodza, an ethnic Albanian member of the nine-man Yugoslav collective federal presidency, made the accusation in a speech in the southern province of Kosovo, where nine people were killed in Albanian nationalist riots in the spring of 1981. Mr. Hodza, speaking in the town of Prizren, only 16 kilometres from the Albanian frontier, said Albanian leaders were creating an "unhealthy, tense and dangerous situation in the Balkans" by making a claim to Kosovo.

Pakistani Shi'ites call off protest

KARACHI (R) — More than 6,000 Shia Muslims Saturday called off a sit-down protest they started on a busy Karachi road almost two days ago. The demonstrators, wearing black clothes and carrying pictures of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, demanded compensation for two holy places they said were set on fire in a clash with Sunni Muslims last month. The protesters also called for protection for their places of worship and non-interference in their religious affairs. The authorities promised compensation, action against troublemakers under Pakistan's martial law regulations, and protection for holy places.

Ex-CIA agent declared guilty

HOUSTON, Texas (R) — A former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent has been found guilty of conspiring to smuggle 20 tons of plastic explosives to Libya in 1977. Edwin Wilson has already been sentenced to 15 years in prison for smuggling five guns to the North African country in 1979. He now faces a possible further jail sentence of 17 years. Federal prosecutors asked for Wilson to be declared "a special dangerous offender" and called for a prison sentence of at least 25 years. The prosecutors alleged that Wilson had offered death contracts totalling \$1 million for the elimination of seven witnesses and two U.S. attorneys connected with the case.

Handwritten signature: *Al-Jazeera*